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CHINA TRADE THREAT

Firms Petition Central Bank Exchange Market Suspension

Shanghai, May 9.
Threatened with complete trade paralysis, the local Importers and Exporters Guild, which claims a membership of over 1,000 Chinese and foreign firms, unanimously decided at a meeting yesterday evening to ask the Central Bank to rescind the new regulations deferring the settlement of foreign exchange with the Bank until the arrival of imported cargo.

Pending a settlement of the issue, Guild members have been instructed to suspend buying from and selling to authorised banks foreign exchange for imports and exports according to the Guild announcement.

It added that, in case the petition should be rejected, its member firms "will be forced to close down business as they will then be in an impossible position under the conditions created by the new rules."

Finance Minister Confers

Shanghai, May 9.
The Finance Minister, Dr. O. K. Yui, conferred with the local authorities yesterday following his arrival from Nanking.

Among those with whom he held talks were the Customs Inspector-General, Mr. L. K. Little, the Deputy Inspector-General, Mr. T. H. Kwei-tung, and Mr. Sze Shou-chung, Director of the Commodity Tax Bureau.

Mr. Sze is reported to have made a detailed report regarding the financial plight of local business and industrial enterprises.

Minister's large advertisement in leading Chinese newspapers. Dr. Yui with the heading: "Advice to Minister of Finance O. K. Yui and the Vice Minister, Hsu Po-yuan, and a request to the community to uphold rightness."

The advertisement was signed by the acting general manager of the Kiangnan Chinese newspaper, Mr. Hsu Po-yuan, and the Finance Ministry last year for alleged failure to fulfill the terms of a guarantee for a construction contract between a contractor and the Chinese Air Force.—Reuter.

Critic Of Chinese Controls

Shanghai, May 9.
Mr. Aw Boon-hwee, the well-known Chinese philanthropist, criticised the Chinese import and export controls as being too rigid in view of the general relaxing of trade controls by all other countries after the last world-war, according to an official organ.

He pointed out that China is an exception as far as import and export restrictions are concerned.

Mr. Aw, who arrived here on Friday after a tour of Taiwan, revealed he had not yet decided regarding investing in Taiwan, although he found conditions there "very good."

The Tiger Balm king added about 70 per cent. of the pre-war trade between Taiwan and the South Seas had been restored.—Reuter.

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Presidential Inauguration On May 20

Nanking, May 9.
Inauguration of the first constitutional president of the Chinese Republic will take place on May 20, it was officially disclosed today.

The inauguration, which was originally scheduled for May 5, was postponed primarily to allow Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek to line up his new government. He is expected to submit his cabinet appointments, including the Prime Minister, almost immediately after his inauguration to the Legislative Yuan who will approve them.

All indications point to the present premier, Gen. Chang Chun, continuing in the present post. Chang definitely has been trying to resign but the Generalissimo is said to have persuaded him to remain on grounds that no one else would fill the bill so well.

Gen. Ho Ying-chin, Chinese delegate to the United Nations, was considered as a possibility for the post but the Generalissimo is reported to have decided against Ho's appointment because it would put three military in the top three government posts, namely himself, Vice President Gen. Li Tsung-jen, and Ho Ying-chin.—United Press.

U.S. Troops To Remain In Korea

Washington, May 9.
Officials here today described the Soviet announcement that they had made arrangements for the immediate withdrawal of troops from North Korea as an "obvious expected propaganda manoeuvre."

They added the Soviet action could have no effect on American plans because the United States considered the entire question of troop withdrawal now a matter for the United Nations to decide.

Initial official reaction to the Soviet announcement was that the Russians possibly had no intention of withdrawing in the near future.

This assessment was made on the basis of the ambiguity in Lt. Gen. P. G. Korotkov's statement that this country "had the necessary arrangements made for the immediate withdrawal of troops from Korea in order to make the American troops withdrawal from Korea simultaneously."

It was pointed out that Korotkov's statement did not in reality commit the Soviet Union to withdrawing unless the Americans left at the same time. For this reason the Soviet announcement was assessed here as an attempt to discredit the United Nations sponsored elections in South Korea.

Officials admitted, however, there was a possibility that the

AIR FORCE REBUKED FOR "TOUGH TALK"

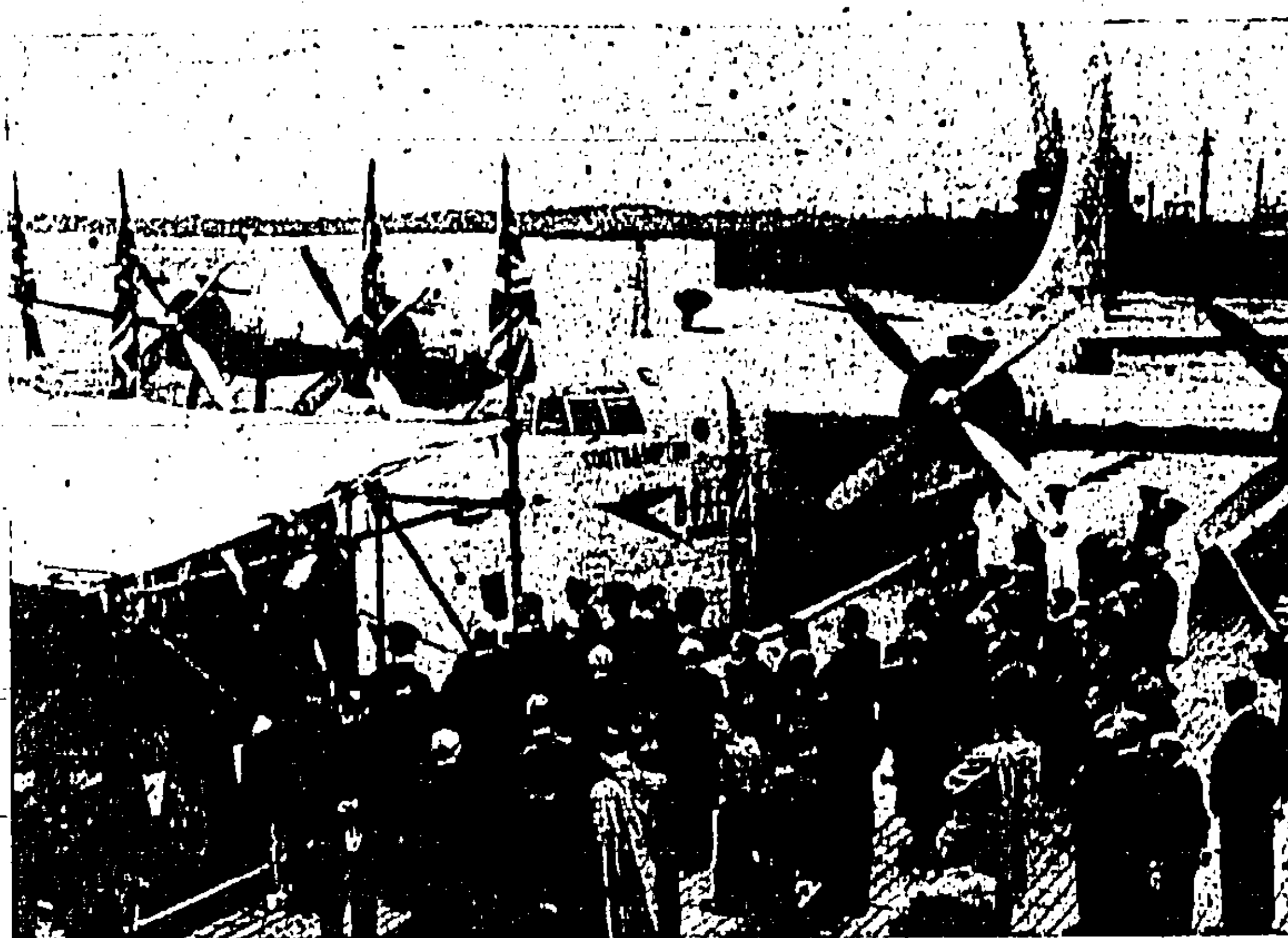
Washington, May 9.
Some Senators today suggested that the Air Force quit its "tough talk" about Russia and leave the foreign policy to President Truman and Secretary of State George C. Marshall.

Their suggestions were prompted by General George C. Kenney's speech that "the question today is quite simple and direct—when will the Communist crowd start Operation America?"

Senator Henry Cabot Lodge Jr., member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said that the question of the imminence of war is one which the President and the Secretary of State must determine.

He added that so far as he knows neither President Truman nor Marshall has "underwritten anything" Air Force officials are saying on foreign policy.

Chairman Bourke Hickenlooper of the Congressional Atomic Energy Commission brushed off Kenney's remarks regarding Russia and the atom



In future, all Hong Kong B.O.A.C. passengers bound for England will disembark at the new flying boat base in Southampton, instead of Poole. This picture shows the christening by Southampton's Mayor of a Speed Solent Class flying boat at the recent opening of the base.

Jaffa--City Of Despair

By SEAGHAN MAYNES

Jaffa, May 9.
This once flourishing seaport on Palestine's Mediterranean coast is today a city of despair. Of its 70,000 inhabitants all but 2,000 fled in panic when several thousand well equipped Jews launched a five-day attack a fortnight ago.

There was the peaceful stillness of an empty town as the Jews from adjoining Tel-Aviv prepared for a victory march through its desolate shot-scarred streets on May 15, when the British mandate ends.

Nothing To Stop Jews.
Only the presence of British troops and tanks, which halted the Jaffa battle and imposed a cease fire, prevents the city falling to the Jews; but once the British withdraw, there is nothing to stop the Jews occupying it—probably without opposition.

During a two-hour tour in silence, interrupted only by the clatter of occasional heavy British tanks and the occasional sand-blasted bullet, the British troops held by men of the Royal Irish Fusiliers and the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders, I saw only a few score listless, hopeless Arabs wandering around the sun-drenched desolation.

In the silent port area, the last handful of Arab refugees and their families huddled around their scanty possessions awaiting boats to evacuate them. They were guarded by the machine guns and Bren carriers of British troops, who have shot looters trying to break into half a dozen port warehouses crammed with goods valued at £2,000,000.

Tons Of Food
In one warehouse, I saw tons of tinned food and dried eggs stacked up with thousands of boxes of sweets and chocolates, cases of medical equipment, machinery, textiles, wines and sacks of flour.

In a few rubbish-heaped streets of shuttered shops and houses—many festooned with torn-down telephone wires—small groups of Arabs looted the remnants of the possessions on a few evacuation lorries, while in the French hospital an Irish nun and her staff cared for the homeless, ill and orphaned Arabs.

The silence was so intense that the song birds flittering across the tree-lined street and the cries of a few babies-crawling on the shot-pocked veranda of an abandoned house were clearly audible for the length of the street.

Except for the battleground in the "No Man's Land" of the Manshih quarter, adjoining the southern district of Tel Aviv, Jaffa escaped battle damage, but it is impossible to estimate financial losses, running into millions, through the abandonment of the city when civilian morale collapsed on the withdrawal of 250 Iraqi fighters after a four-day battle.

"Ghost Town"
The scene was reminiscent of the "ghost towns" of France and Germany during the war. Only a few Army vehicles were passing through the steel rail and barbed wire roadblocks, and sand-bagged gunposts.

In a two-hour tour, I heard only a single rifle shot—in the Manshih quarter, where British troops were mapping positions, a few score yards from the Jews they had forced back to Tel Aviv.

Jaffa's remaining Arabs, seriously short of food but fatalistically resigned to the loss of their

FIGHT AGAINST FINLAND'S REDS Anti-Coup Measures

Stockholm, May 9.

Strong measures against Finland's Communists have been taken by the 78-year-old President, Dr. Juho Paasikivi, after the disclosure by the Social Democrat newspaper "Social Demokratti" that the extreme Left was preparing to overthrow the Government during the country's recent pact negotiations with the Soviet Union.

Dr. Paasikivi has put the Communist Minister of the Interior, M. Yrjo Leino, in disgrace by making two other Cabinet Ministers jointly responsible with him for the maintenance of public order and the supervision of the police forces.

The President has also ordered the civilian police to be on the watch against "all eventualities."

As a further precaution, he placed army units on guard over the large stores of weapons and ammunition which Finland is to send to the Soviet Union under the peace treaty and which, according to the "Social Demokratti" the Communists were planning to seize in the coup.

Newspaper Support

The majority of Finland's newspapers support the President because they consider that the Communists, who hold less than one-quarter of the total number of seats in Parliament, have been provocative.

They have not denied that they were planning a coup d'etat; but only called on the other parties to prove that they were. In factories in Helsinki, and other industrial centres, their threats to "hang from the lamp posts" non-Communist workers have caused 10 Communists to be brought before the courts on charges of "committing acts of terror at their place of work."

M. Leino has been accused, in a new report of the Constitutional Committee, of breaking the constitution by handing over to Russia "without trial or examination" 20 persons of Russian birth who had acquired Finnish nationality before the armistice in September, 1944.

No Charges

This charge lays him open to impeachment, but the President has intimated that he will not proceed against him.

Finally, M. Leino aroused the wrath of Social Democrat workers in Helsinki and other industrial towns by his recent radio speech in which he said that the "reactionaries" of Finland, and not the Communists, were trying to overthrow the Government, and referred to a "terror campaign being waged against the Left."

The Conservative, Liberal, Agrarian and Social Democrat press have called for M. Leino's resignation; but the President is considered unlikely to demand it because his policy is to maintain the rickety Coalition Government until the general elections next July.—Reuter.

FIVE PRIESTS HELD AS USA "SPIES"

San Francisco, May 9.

The Chinese Communist radio reported today the Communists were holding five Catholic priests who "confessed" to being American spies.

The Communist shortwave broadcast also charged the United States had violated Communist "sovereignty" in trying to help 12 nuns to leave the same North China area.

The broadcasts were heard in San Francisco by the Associated Press.

The radio listed the five priests as R. Charvet, A. Bauer, J. Lichtenberger, J. Motte and Chiu Shu-shan.

Charvet, Bauer and Motte were listed as French nationals and Lichtenberger as a Belgian. The Catholic Church at Chian-chiang was used as a radio station to broadcast information gathered by the priests, the Communist radio charged. The broadcast said the priests made their contacts with agents of Chiang Kai-shek and the U.S. in Tientsin.

"Admissions"
The Communists said the five priests have been held since last October and have made statements admitting espionage for the U.S. and Chiang Kai-shek.

Subsequent broadcasts in Chinese and English said the U.S. Consul-General in Peiping had sent air-dropped notes to Hsienhsien on Mar. 3 seeking aid of local Communist authorities in evacuating 12 nuns.

Consul-General Edmund O. Clubb in Peiping confirmed the sending of the messages.

The Communist broadcasters said the nuns were not involved in the alleged spy plot and were free to go or stay as they chose.

"Violation"
The women were listed as five American, five Canadian and two British sisters of the Adorers of the Precious Blood. No names were given.

The Communists complained strongly that the plane-dropped notes constituted "violation" of air rights in time of war and might have "unfavourable results."

American authorities were told curtly to send overland messengers to proper Communist officials if they wished to negotiate, rather than try to "play" air with local leaders.—Associated Press.

Eclipse Seen But Not In H.K.

Tokyo, May 9.

Bad weather, which cleared at the last minute, enabled Japan to get a good look today at the eclipse and reportedly ensured the success of the National Geographic Society's photographic venture on Rebus Jima.

In Hong Kong dense clouds obscured the sun's disc throughout the day.

Rebus Jima, off the western tip of Northern Hokkaido, was hidden under a "thick blanket" of clouds early this morning, the Tokyo Weather Central reported, but they disappeared in time to enable photographers to photograph the eclipse.

"Great Success"

A Japan Broadcasting Corporation correspondent reported from Rebus Jima that the photographic mission—and the eclipse—were a "great success."

Scattered heavy clouds over Tokyo occasionally dimmed the view of the sun but none of the Americans or Japanese who viewed the spectacle through smoked glasses or photographic negatives were disappointed, said Associated Press.

United Press said a cloudless sky over Manila gave citizens a perfect view of the phenomenon.

In Washington the National Geographic Society reported that its Bangkok team sent a message today that conditions were satisfactory for photographing all but the final phases of an almost total sun eclipse.

Dr. C. E. Smiley, leader of the Bangkok team, said in the message that he was "jubilant" at the prospects for successful photographic work.

Burma To Aleutians

The report was the first reaching this country from observers stationed by the Society at seven stations from Burma to the Aleutians. The eclipse first observed in Burma was last seen in the Aleutians five hours later at 4:53 a.m. GMT (1 p.m. Hong Kong time).

Smiley reported that despite the massing of monsoon clouds conditions improved sufficiently at the eclipse time to permit photographing the sun's blackout through thin cirrus clouds. He said, however, the results of not photographing the later stages was problematical.

In Seoul, Korea had the first total eclipse of the sun in four generations this morning, the day before the first free election in its 4,000-year history. According to a Korean proverb "when the queen moon covers the face of the king sun the dynasty changes."—United Press.

The Weather

An anti-cyclone perched at a ridge of high pressure from the sea of Japan to the S.E. China coast.

A complex low pressure system covers central and S.W. China, Indochina and Siam. From a deep depression to the north of Hokkaido a trough extends southwards then South-Westward to the northern part of the China Sea.

The weather forecast for Siam to S.E. winds, unsettled at first improving slowly. Warmer.

Yesterday's Weather—
Maximum 78.1 deg. Feh.
Minimum 73.0 deg. Feh.
Rainfall 29.3 mm. = 1.1 in. Total since Jan. 1 244.9 mm. = 9.6 in. as against an average of 87.4 mm. = 3.4 in.

Shanghai at 10 a.m. 19.1 deg. C. = 66.4 deg. F.
Humidity 72.1 per cent.
Bar. 1013.1 mm. = 29.9 in. Hg.
Wind 11 m.p.h. = 17.7 k.p.h.
Wind Force 11 = 17 knots.

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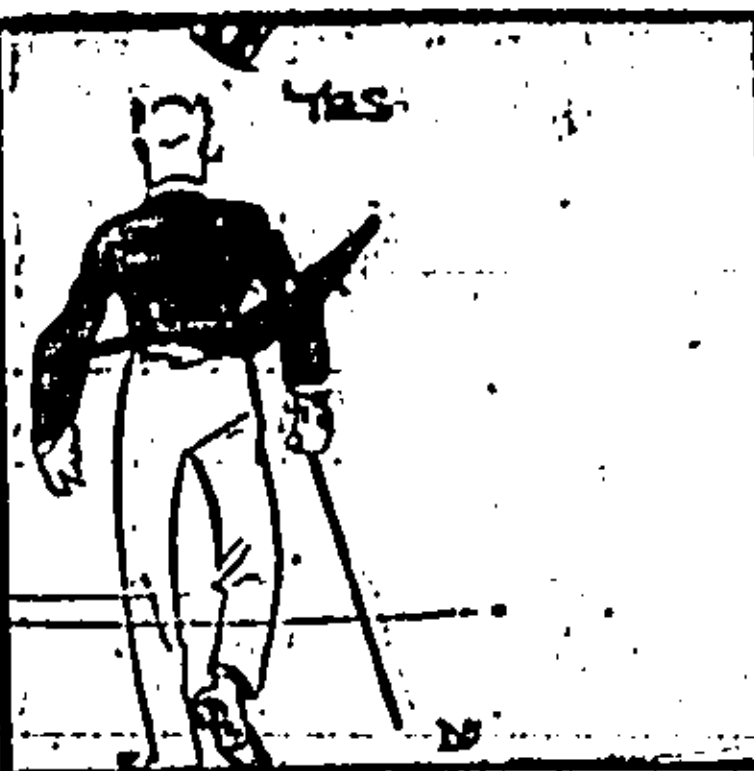
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Transfer Of Ukraine Farmers To Siberian Factories Report

30,000 Troops Exercise

Camp Campbell, Ky.,
May 9.

The nation's biggest peacetime military manoeuvres since the end of the war got a spectacular send-off today when nearly 30,000 paratroopers followed down in a mass jump to battle "guerrillas" and fifth columnists.

The guerrillas were besieging the medical centre at Camp Campbell.

The manoeuvres, known as "Operation Assembly," will shortly involve about 30,000 troops in joint operations of the Third Army and Ninth Air Force.

The Army had to reach into Army posts in nearly every section of the country to get enough troops from its part in the sham warfare.

The paratroopers "recaptured" Camp Campbell airport, received supplies by glider and dug-in to await reinforcement by thousands of other troops from the Fifth Corps rushing to their assistance by train and truck. United Press.

Japan Diet Brawl

Tokyo, May 9.
Japan's legislators staged another brawl in the Diet yesterday which probably will revive editorial accusations that they had better be pugilists than politicians.

The latest free-for-all in the Diet, which was the scene of several previous battles, arose, according to Nippon Times, when "political mud-slinging among legislators reached white hot peak."

The fight occurred during a meeting of the committee investigating illegal property transactions. Shiro Nakano of Japan Farmers Party was questioning Shigesaburo Maeo, former Taxation Bureau director, when Nakano's Usonomiya of the Democratic Party, began making acid remarks.

Nakano asked an apology from Usonomiya and disciplinary action by the committee chairman. Usonomiya refused to withdraw his remarks, whereupon Democratic Party members threw wild and futile punches for a full five minutes before order was restored. Associated Press.

DDT SPRAY MISTAKEN

Haifa, May 9.
British officials reported today that a British soldier was killed and two wounded in nearby Acre when a panicky crowd mistook a DDT gun for a weapon and mobbed a British Army medic team. The soldiers were attempting to disinfest the scene of typhoid outbreak in the Arab coastal city. They withdrew after the riot. United Press.

Soviet Administers Another Snub

Berlin, May 8.

Soviet Military Government postal officials in Berlin have declined to meet British representatives to discuss how Berlin will, in future, be able to send parcels to the Western Zones of Germany, it was officially announced today.

Officials of the British Military Government in Berlin had asked the Russians for a meeting to clarify the position following the new instructions issued by the Soviet Zone postal administration, which have interrupted the regular flow of parcel mail from Berlin to the West.

Parcels from the Western Zones now have to be handed over to one of the four post offices in the Soviet sector of the city, where they will be opened and their contents examined for food and other prohibited matter. An official British statement today said these instructions, it is accepted, "would cause great hardship to the people of Berlin."

The wholesale transporting of farmers in the Ukraine to Siberian factories and the re-population of the province by farmers from areas in Eastern Russia is taking place, a former Soviet citizen with sources still in the Ukraine said today.

He also declared that many political prisoners are being moved into Siberia and Sakhalin, north of Japan, and put to work in Siberian factories and Sakhalin labour camps.

The movement of Western Russians to the east and Eastern Russians to the west, this source said, was for the purpose of isolating those who have been too long exposed to Western ideas by virtue of their nearness to Russia's Western neighbours.

They are being sent to sections of Russia where they will no longer be exposed to the examples set by the Western democracies and where they will have no chance to put those examples into practice or "contaminate" other Russians with what they know about the Western ways of life, this source said.

Two Classes

There have been far more residents of the Ukraine moved to the east than the number of those moved to the west, he said. He put at 4,500,000 to 5,000,000 the number of Ukrainians who, for one reason or another have been uprooted and sent off to Siberia and the Sakhalins.

They fall into two general classes, he said. One class is made up of those Russians who before and even during the war were branded as pro-German. Many thousands were arrested during the war, he said, but there are still many Russians, particularly in the area west and south of Kiev, who are suspected by the Russian state police of having been pro-German sympathisers and who are being arrested daily even now.

The second class are those Russians, particularly longtime residents of the Ukraine and the Carpathian mountain area villagers who were suspected of taking part of supporting the abortive Ukrainian revolt in 1945-46. The immediate leaders and active rebels were liquidated long ago, he said, but there still is opposition to the Soviet government in the Carpathians.

Red Army regulars are constantly on patrol in the mountains, seeking the hiding places of Carpathian guerrillas who strike at militia outposts and garisons, the source said. These guerrillas are given strong support by the mountain inhabitants.

Hope Lies In War

The source estimated that of almost 5,000,000 Ukrainians who had been moved eastward between 700,000 and 800,000 were political prisoners who had been impressed into labour battalions. They were assigned to factories of the Ural region or to rail and highway construction gangs both in Siberia and the Sakhalins.

The resistance movement, he declared, still has hopes of accomplishing its aim of divorcing itself from the Soviet and throwing the Communists out and, those hopes lie in a war between the East and West.

In the event of a war between Russia and any nation, he said,

Shanghai, May 9.

The Ukraine resistance movement would immediately be thrown alongside the Soviet foe. The feeling is strong there, he said, that a war will eventually come and Carpathians already have blue-printed their course of action.

The source predicted that the people of the entire province would be overwhelmingly on the side of the resistance group. This, he said, is principally because of the Soviet tactics in putting down the rebellion in 1945-46 little information about which seeped through the iron curtain.

This source said the information he had from the Ukraine is fairly up to date although it is getting more and more difficult to get reports smuggled through and the routes by which it gets to him are becoming more and more devious. United Press.

WALLACE BIDS FOR VOTES

New York, May 9.
Henry Wallace, in his first major bid for women's votes, said today that he would make American women "first class citizens."

The Presidential candidate told the New York State Women for Wallace that he favoured a programme ranging from free lunches for school children to equal job security for women with men. United Press.

Two Choices For Arab Nation

Damascus, May 9.
The Arab world, rocked by Jewish military successes in Palestine and plagued by political bickering at home, appears to observers here to have forced itself into the position of choosing between an all-out war in the Holy Land or a revolution at home.

Apparently seeking Saudi Arabian support in internal problems as well as aid for Palestine, the Syrian and Lebanese Premiers are now in Riyadh, Saudi Arabian capital. Before their departure from Damascus, Lebanese Premier Riyad El Solh told Syrian newsmen they proposed to confer with Saudi Arabian King Ibn Saud on "coordination of action against Zionism in Palestine."

Observers here, however, generally agree that Syria and Lebanon are seeking Saudi Arabia as an ally in the fight against "Hashimite ambitions" to rule an all-Arab Middle East under the "greater Syria scheme."

The two Hashimite kingdoms, Trans-Jordan and Iraq, were not represented at the conference although they were apparently co-operators in operations for the projected invasion by regular Arab armies into Palestine.

Besides worries in this direction, the Syrian and Lebanese Governments are chafing under public pressure for immediate despatch of regular troops to "rescue" Palestine Arabs. The populace has long been demanding this action, and problems arising from the arrival of tens of thousands of Arab refugees from Palestine in these countries has intensified these demands.

Many observers believe the Governments are in danger of collapse unless immediate action is taken. Associated Press.

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WELL-KNOWN BURMA POLITICIANS FREED

Rangoon, May 8.
The Burma Government today announced the release of a number of well-known political figures who were arrested in the general roundup at the time of the assassination of U Aung San and six of his Cabinet last July.

U Saw, ex-Premier of Burma, and five others were, however, held at dawn today for complicity in the murders.

Those released included Thakin Ba Sein, leader of the Dohama Aisayone (Burma for Burmans Party) who was a former Executive Councillor.

Together with U Saw, he disagreed with the Aung San-Atlee agreement of 1947, dealing with future relations between Britain and Burma.

Also released were the son-in-law of the ex-Premier, Dr. U Maw, and 26 other political leaders. The cases of approximately 400 other political prisoners arrested at the same time are at present under review.

Details of the hanging of U Saw were given to his widow, early this morning, in the house of her father, where she is staying. She stated that no one should be admitted to see her.

She will be left fairly well provided for, U Saw's Rangoon house and land will be divided between his wife, daughter and one of his nieces. Reuter.

US Soldier Murdered

Frankfurt, May 9.
Sgt. Raymond P. Switzer, 35, was killed yesterday in a Kessel railroad station when an unknown assailant struck him over the head and fractured his skull, the Stars and Stripes reported today.

The dispatch said Switzer, and his wife and child were on their way from Linz, Austria, to a small town west of Kessel where they were planning to visit Mrs. Switzer's sister.

The sergeant went into the station washroom while they were waiting for the train and when he did not reappear his wife began to look for him.

Another United States soldier and a German employee found the sergeant lying on the floor of the washroom, badly injured. He had been robbed of his gold wristwatch, \$18 in script money.

Switzer was taken to a German hospital where he died. United Press.

Germans Demand Treaty

Berlin, May 8.

On the third anniversary of their country's capitulation, Germans today demanded that the victor nations grant them a long-delayed peace treaty.

There was unanimity on this demand, even among political parties and newspapers which usually were deeply divided. German spokesmen complained that Germany was being made the victim of growing differences between Russia and the Western occupying powers.

Berlin's Conservative Christian Democratic Union issued a public appeal to the occupation leaders for a peace treaty, a German Central Government to sign it, unification of partitioned Germany and return of all prisoners of war.

"Let our great nation perish in misery," the appeal concluded. "Don't let us continue to be the victim of your differences."

The official newspaper of the Rightist Liberal Democratic Party asserted, "even the vanquished has a right—the right to an end and just peace." Associated Press.

DEPUTY PREMIER FLEES

Frankfurt, May 7.
The former Deputy Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia, Dr. Stephen Kocvara, has arrived in the American Zone of Germany after fleeing from his country. Reuter.

Reminders

Today
Annual meeting of Shanghai Kodak Plantations Limited at 601-606, Marina House, 12 noon.
H.K. Singers practice at St. John's Cathedral Hall, Garden Road, 5.30 p.m.
Whist Drive, European YMCA, West Lounge, 8 p.m.

Coming Events

TOMORROW
Urban Council meeting, G.P.O. Bldg., 4.15 p.m.
H.K. Rotary Club luncheon, H.K. Magic Circle meeting, Cosmo Club.
Women's Guild, Kowloon Union Church, meeting at 10 a.m.

WEDNESDAY
H.K. Engineering Construction Co., Ltd., annual meeting, 2nd floor, St. George's Bldg., 12 noon.
Talk on "Berlin Re-Visited" by Capt. A.J.E. Luff, at Tee H. Club, Talbot House, 60, Macdonnell Rd., 8.30 p.m.
Church of the Holy Spirit, Christ Church Vicarage, 8.30 p.m.
Kowloon Union Church Management Committee meeting, in Vestry, 6.30 p.m.

THURSDAY
Royal Air Forces Association luncheon, Jacobson Room, H.K. Hotel, 12.45 p.m.
Y's Men's Club luncheon, roof Garden, H.K. Hotel, 12.30 p.m.
Mahjong and Bridge Drive, European YMCA, 2.30 p.m.

FRIDAY
St. Andrew's Club, annual meeting, at St. Andrew's Church Hall, 6.30 p.m.
Kowloon Rotary Club luncheon, Peninsula Hotel, 12.30 p.m.
Opening night of "The Spoiled Princess", presented by the Wah Yan Dramatic Society, at Wah Yan College, Robinson Rd., 8.30 p.m.

Methodists Oppose Conscription

Boston, May 9.

The Methodist General Conference today established a four-year policy of opposition to universal military training.

The Conference adopted almost unanimously the report of the Policy Committee calling for the formation of a Federated World Government through United Nations machinery.

It opposed the Government policy based upon armed force and urged control and reduction of armaments.

The Conference adopted a statement which will represent the stand of the Methodist Church for the next four years on war and peace issues for its 20,000,000 members.

The Methodist Federation for Social Action, the municipal group, often accused of leftist leanings, is prepared to continue its activities for another four years.

Although the churchmen contended the group was "heading too far to the left," delegates to the 1948 General Conference refused to form an official organization for social action purposes. United Press.

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Don't deprive yourself of the advantages that come with good health. Your food alone may not give you enough of the vitamins you must have. Even the mildest vitamin deficiency may cause discomfort, too trifling to be called sickness, yet annoying enough to take the joy out of living. The vitamin content of your meals is hard to measure and harder to keep constantly at a healthy level. Choose the safe and easy way: supplement your food with

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JAPS FACE STARVATION IF TRADE EMBARGOED

Smuggling Turned Turtle

Shanghai, May 9. Customs officials today arrested smugglers who were attempting to take out of China 300 pounds of silver stuffed in the bellies of dead turtles.

The curiosity of the officials was aroused when the smugglers started to board a plane for Hong Kong with a basket of dead turtles. United Press.

Readers' Letters

Legalized Robbery

Sir,—I am fully in agreement with the view expressed by Mr. J. A. Almeida Remedios in your paper of the eighth May, in the case of the legalized robbery of the unfortunate victim, Mr. Y. T. Hing, who was moved with the steamer in that to Amoy.

Lately many cases of similar nature have been reported. As the victims in these cases are Chinese emigrants, undoubtedly working for the greater part of their lives in the country, to which they migrated and amass, but whatever fortune they accumulated from their savings is more lenient view should be taken of the case.

It is a well known fact that restrictions exist in practically all the countries in the world with respect to remittance to foreign countries. These Chinese, instead of remitting their savings to their country, purchased gold bars so that they can bring home their savings under the guise of a gift. If this is considered an offence of a crime against the law of the colony, I would venture a serious grievance on behalf of these victims and suggest that, if the question of law is to be ruled, then the colony, and should be carefully considered and established before passing judgment.

The formal condition of penal liability is intention. When the victim in this case purchased his bars in the place where his intention was never to violate the restrictions and regulations of the colony by bringing them here. If, however, any offence was committed, it would not be against the law of the colony. If it was not an offence or crime to purchase and hold in possession gold bars in the place where the victim embarked, it is not an offence of a crime or even a violation against the law of the colony for him to have the gold bars with him on board the vessel in transit to the Chinese port; for it was never his intention to land in the colony.

As regards the presumption that the gold bars may be disposed of at any ports of call, it would be just as preposterous to assume that these gold bars may be turned in the purchase of arms to strengthen the Government. The question of penal liability therefore, devolves on the Chinese authorities at the port of destination, in the case under protest, Amoy. What then is the social justice in this case of confiscation?

A Challenge

Sir,—Since several of your correspondents have brought up the subject, I feel I must rise to the defense of pornographic literature and art.

I personally enjoy few things better than a good filthy book or picture, and I challenge your correspondents to deny that they do also.

As for such works affecting the morals of young children, that is all eyewash. Any child can tell you more about sex than you would think possible, and from where do you think that knowledge comes? From shy, self-conscious parents? Not on your life.

It comes from just such pictures and stories, doing the job that parents themselves are reluctant to undertake. A child is never too young to learn about sex, and parents should make such works available to their kids at an early age to encourage them to ask questions.

Tokyo, May 9. Millions of Japanese face a permanent prospect of starvation unless Japan is allowed to produce and sell abroad enough goods to buy one-fourth of its food requirements, Gen. Douglas MacArthur's headquarters warned today in a new report on the food situation.

The warning came as an indirect answer to Allied criticism of American plans to revive Japanese industrial production and the nation's export trade.

"Japan cannot provide all its food requirements from domestic sources or reduce its prewar dependence upon imported food," the report published by SCAP's Natural Resources Section stated. "Only by an increase in industry and trade can Japan support its population even on a modest basis in the years immediately after."

The hysterical and hypocritical letter of "A Student" is all too indicative of thinking today. Let us first set straight our own thinking, and then worry about cleansing the minds of others. STUPID SUSIE.

Police Action

Sir,—At about 10.45 p.m. on Saturday, while walking along one of the streets where pornographic literature and obscene photographs are being openly sold, I saw a uniformed Chinese policeman approach two vendors of pornographic literature and obscene photographs. This policeman seized a number of obscene photographs in possession of these two vendors and began tearing the photographs up and scattering the torn pieces about the pavement. "The policeman did not touch the pornographic literature which was on display on the pavement. The greater part about the action of the policeman was that he appeared to single out the two vendors in question for particular attention, while entirely ignoring some thirty to forty other vendors of similar literature and photographs whose notices were located side by side to those of the two vendors under reference. In fact, many customers, particularly young men and one girl, were purchasing obscene photographs from the vendors right under the very nose of the policeman. Immediately after tearing up the obscene photographs in possession of the two vendors, the policeman strode rapidly across the road and disappeared in a side street. I could give no explanation for the action of the policeman. SIMPLE SIMON (1).

Exodus Of Arabs From Palestine

Jerusalem, May 9. As the end of the British mandate draws near, the Arab exodus from Palestine has grown to a steady stream. Consulates of neighbouring lands have been deluged with applications for visas.

Transjordan has been getting over 200 a day. Plane bookings are full. BOAC have a month-long waiting list for flights to Cyprus, already overcrowded with refugees. Sea bookings are not so high because road travel to Haifa, Palestine's main port, is almost impossible except by armoured convoys.

Many travellers prefer to fly to Beirut, in the Lebanon, and embark there; but nearly all the emigrants want to come back when the country returns to normal, and long queues of people wait for re-entry visas each day. British sources told Reuters tonight that the British troops are obliged to evacuate Palestine section by section, according to plan, and that if they stayed on in Jerusalem too long, they might be cut off and have to fight their way out to the ports. These sources denied reports that Britain had speeded up her evacuation plans and said that August 1 remained the target date for their completion.

Diplomatic experts in Washington must now provide for chaotic conditions in Palestine almost without precedent for a country normally at peace, but without an establish Government.

Unconfirmed reports in Washington said that shiploads of Jews from Black Sea ports are now waiting to sail to Palestine with Soviet approval. The Arab States, it is believed, will not have sufficient naval forces to continue the British blockade against illegal immigration, and the Jews in control of Tel Aviv will be in a strong position to admit immigrants from both Cyprus and the Black Sea.

One of the most critical questions which will face the United States is whether to recognize the Jewish Government expected to be set up immediately after Britain lays down the mandate. It is recognized in diplomatic circles that the setting up of a Jewish Government will give rise to extremely complicated questions.—Reuter.

Communist Advance In Honan

Nanking, May 9. The Government's military spokesman announced today the loss to the Reds the South Honan town of Hsichuan, 80 miles west of Nanyang and equal distance east of the Szechwan border.

At the same time, military reports said a concentration of Government aircraft bent off to the Communist attempt to cross the Han River in what appeared to be a new move to enter the rich Szechwan Province.

Another Honan town, Sishakou, an important point in the Neihsiung-Nanyang area, also fell to the Reds, after changing hands several times. Both towns seized by the Communists were bases for the West Honan people's (Government) militia.

Anxiety for Nanyang itself increased as Communist commanders sent several strong columns toward the city.

In Shensi, field dispatches said a Communist attack force drove into the South Shensi city of Linfeng, after heavy artillery preparation. The fate of the Linfeng garrison was undetermined, although earlier reports said the Reds who broke into the northern section of Linfeng were repulsed after two hours of heavy street fighting.

In northern Shensi, another Communist force continued its efforts to storm the walled city of Yinghsien. Meanwhile, pro-Government reports said the Nationalist forces were rapidly stabilizing the situation around Shian, where a week ago Communist troops appeared headed for another break-through into Szechwan.—Associated Press.

USN. TASK IN JERUSALEM

Washington, May 9. The State Department today asked the U.S. Navy to establish communication facilities in Jerusalem.

The Navy issued a statement saying that the request of the State Department, the Navy Department is assigning one officer and 11 men to establish communication facilities at the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem.

"These personnel will form an integral part of the consular staff and function under the direction of the U.S. Consul General, who is also United States representative on the Truce Commission established by the United Nations Security Council."—Associated Press.

He said Secretary of State Marshall "tried for seven months to force Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek to accept Communists in the Government of China, and since that time he has discouraged efforts to give armaments to the Chinese Government to combat Communists, even though in Greece we pursue an exactly opposite policy."—United Press.

Red Jewish State Produces More

London, May 9. Birobajan, the Soviet Union's Jewish state, has pledged to increase its collective farm harvests 20 per cent and cattle population 31 per cent, the Soviet News Agency Tass said.

Birobajan, in the Soviet Far East, became an autonomous region of the Soviet Union on May 7, 1944.

In a survey of the area's activities since its formation 20 years ago, Tass declared "the economic progress of the region was accompanied by a development of national culture. The Jewish language, alongside the Russian, is recognised as the official language in all institutions and the judiciary. Birobajan now has 150 elementary and secondary schools where tuition is conducted in the Jewish language, a teachers training college, a railway school, an agricultural school, and a music school.

"A Jewish drama theatre has been opened."

According to Tass, the output of industrial goods and agricultural produce is rising steadily in Birobajan. "In the first quarter of the current year the output of manufactured goods was 26 per cent more than in the corresponding period of last year."

Settlers are still arriving in the region, Tass said, 1,200 families in the first quarter of 1948.

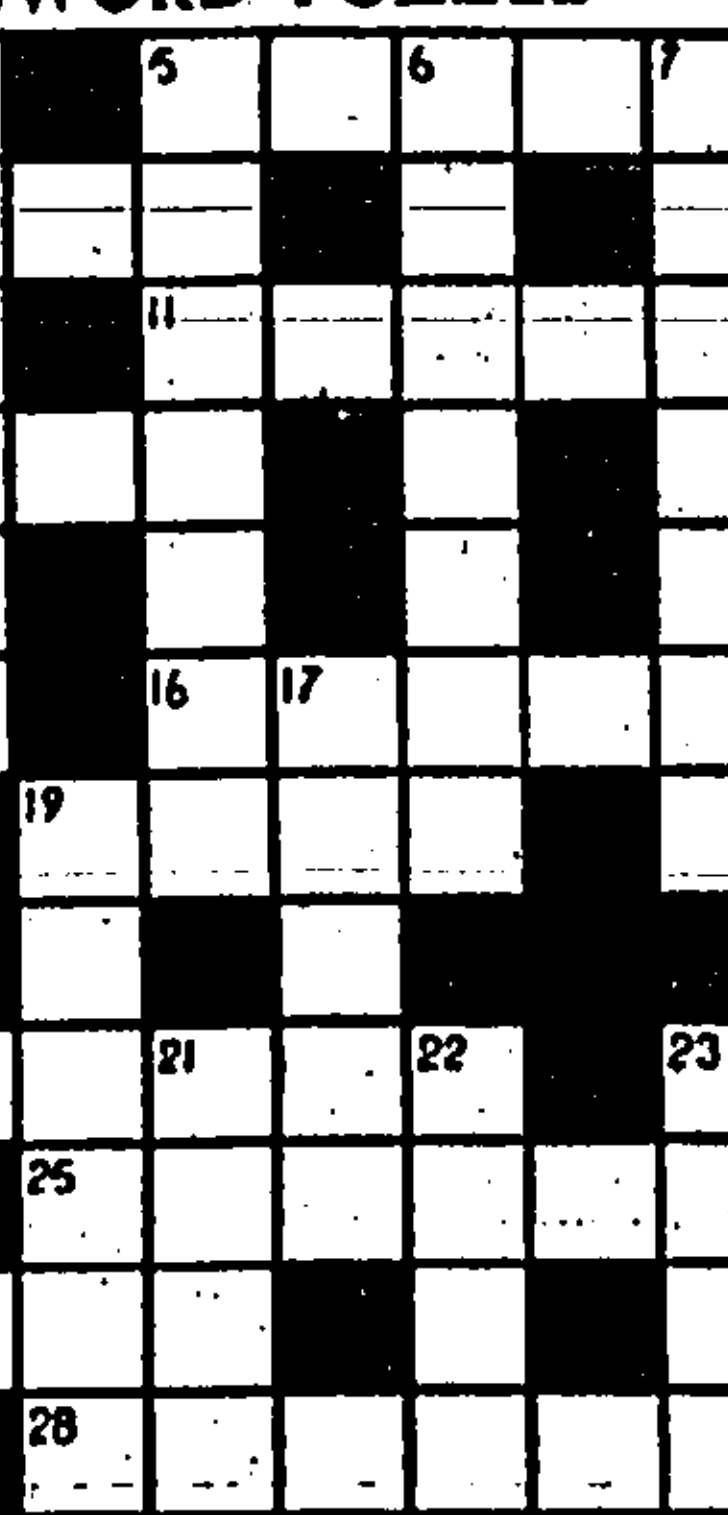
"NOAH'S ARK" NEARS SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco, May 9. "Noah's Ark" will dock at San Francisco on Tuesday. The "Ark" is the American President Line's freighter President Grant due from the Far East with one of the largest consignments of jungle denizens ever shipped to the Pacific Coast on one vessel.

The motley collection loaded on the Grant is destined for American zoos, circuses, research laboratories and bird parks. It included seven elephants, six bears, 200 monkeys, 20 gibbons, apes, four Siamese golden cats, 2,000 birds, five large cases of snakes, each case containing about 20 reptiles.

The animals were collected by members of the Catalina Wild Life Expedition during six weeks safari in the Siamese jungles.—United Press.

A BRITISH CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Clues Across

1. Iterate.
5. Deserves.
8. Difficult point.
9. Disregard.
11. Bring on.
12. Entertains.
14. Remain.
16. Composition.
18. Contended.
19. with.
20. Ambassadors.
21. Discourage.
25. Not so difficult.
26. Species.
27. Vassal.
28. Menace.

Clues Down

1. Incursion.
2. Liquid measure.
3. Land measure.
4. International agreement.
5. Had being.
6. Hermit.
7. Examine.
10. Speak eloquently.
13. Disgrace.
14. Ghost.
15. Contrary.
17. Slaughters.
18. Turn upside-down.
21. Exploitive.
22. Ancestor.
23. Legal document.

Saturday's Crossword

Across—1 Sparse, 4 Spill, 7 Piffle, 8 Crush, 10 Roue, 12 Rectles, 15 Ennui, 16 Sent, 17 Tang, 19 Prate, 20 Entered, 21 Stern, 23 Shady, 24 Mortal, 25 Smart, 26 Pallid.

Down—1 Separate, 2 Affluent, 3 Sold, 5 Persists, 6 Listen, 9 Weird, 11 Engender, 12 Rupee, 13 Teetotal, 14 Stumbled, 18 Anthem, 22 Sofa.

Reds Scorn Hague Conference

London, May 9. Radio Moscow today heaped bitter scorn on the European Congress meeting at The Hague.

The broadcast said Congress plans "aim at subjugating the Western European States, depriving them of their national sovereignty and using them against democratic movements in all European countries."

In addition to "the diplomatic activity the imperialists have directed to this end and the economic pressure exercised against the smaller States, the organisers of the Western bloc are now employing public and political organisations and demagogic slogans to prepare European public opinion for the knocking together of a Western bloc."—United Press.

AMERICANS TO BE PRESENTED

London, May 9. Thirty Americans will bow and curtsy to Britain's King and Queen at the annual presentation party on Thursday.

In the vast Throne Room of Buckingham Palace King George, Queen Elizabeth and the rest of the Royal Family will receive the group at a swank court party. Ambassador Lewis W. Douglas selected the 30 from his embassy staff personnel, friends resident or visiting Americans in London.—United Press.

WHALERS OUT OF LUCK

Tokyo, May 8. Japanese whalers in the Bonins hauled in their harpoons today and started for home.

Kyodo said the fleet had run out of fuel oil. The Bonin whalers have had the worst kind of fishermen's luck this year, bagging only 15 of the 200 whales they had hoped to catch. Last year, the Bonin whalers caught 203. Bonin whales are of a type the Nipponese call sardine whales.—Associated Press.

EEC VOTE SPLIT

Geneva, May 8. The first vote since the Economic Commission for Europe began its meeting 13 days ago split between East and West countries here today.

EEC voted 11-6 to study means by which it can collaborate with the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation in the development and rehabilitation of European agriculture. Russia, which is not a member of EEC, proposed that the problem be handled independently of that group, but the Soviet proposal was defeated.—United Press.

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QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M. TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.



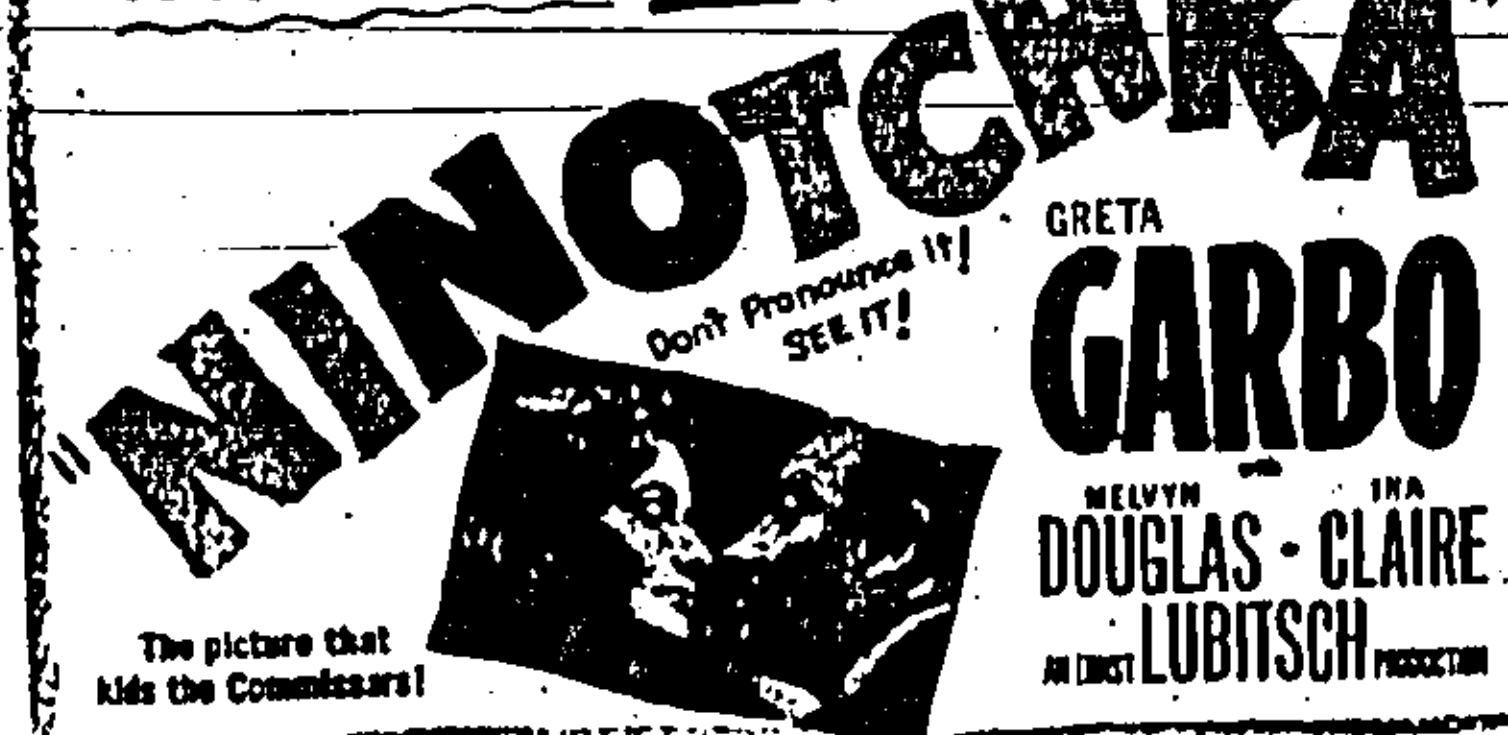
—NEXT CHANGE—

QUEEN'S "NINOTCHKA" with Greta GARBO An M-G-M Picture.

ALHAMBRA "THIS MAN'S NAVY" with Wallace BEERY An M-G-M Picture.

NEXT CHANGE at the **QUEEN'S**

MGM'S COMEDY ABOUT THE LADY COMMISSAR WHO SAID "NO!"



ORIENTAL

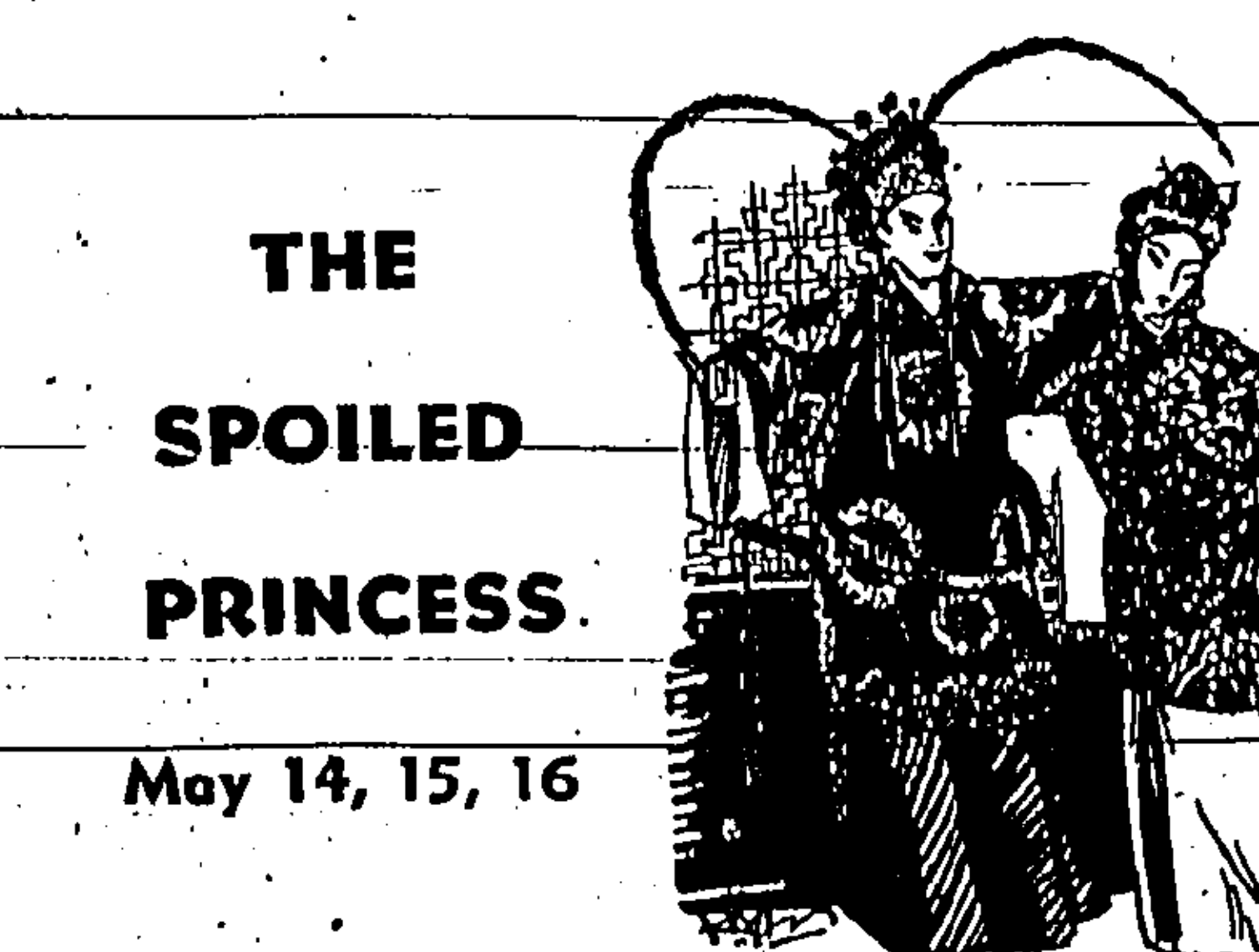
Positively Last 4 Times To-day: 2.30, 5.15, 7.30, 9.30 p.m.
Every Song a HIT!... Every Laugh A BIG ONE!
Every Performer A STAR! Every Scene A NEW ONE!



— COMMENCING TO-MORROW —
"DO YOU LOVE ME?"

WAH YAN DRAMATIC SOCIETY

PRESENTS
A CHINESE OPERA IN ENGLISH



AT WAH YAN COLLEGE THEATRE (ROBINSON ROAD)

EACH NIGHT AT 8.30

Tickets: \$10, \$5 at MOUTRIE'S, Chater Road and at WAH YAN COLLEGE, Tel: 22373 & 22540.

KOREAN VIOLENCE TIMED TO COINCIDE WITH ELECTIONS

Communist Terrorism And Sabotage

'Propaganda Shot' By Russians

Seoul, May 9.
Communist terrorism, arson and sabotage, aimed at wrecking Monday's election, hit South Korea this week-end as expected.

Timed with the outbreaks was a Russian announcement of plans to abandon the occupation of North Korea immediately. The Soviet Commander frankly said his move was an attempt to "make American troops withdraw from Korea immediately."

American military authorities said, however, there were no indications that the Russians were actually preparing to leave. One called it "just another propaganda shot" by the Russians.

The Americans have refused previous Soviet proposals for simultaneous withdrawal on the grounds that this would hand all Korea over to the Russian-organised North Korean Army.

Nearly 8,000,000 South Koreans voted the prospect of braving bullets and beatings from Communist-led gangs to cast their ballots in Monday's election.

Since early February, about 400 persons in South Korea have died in short, sharp attacks by roving bands on police stations, election headquarters and the homes of Rightists. The fighting has been vicious, with rifles, swords, knives, spears, clubs and even stones as weapons. Many victims have been dismembered.

Lieutenant General John R. Hodge, U.S. occupation commander, has charged repeatedly that this is the work of "Communist stooges of northern masters" seeking to smash the election through terrorism and violence, slaughter and sabotage.

No Americans have been involved. They are under orders to avoid crowds and stay away from trouble. American authorities agree that the aim of the terrorists is to cause the U.N. observers to reject the election results on the ground that the balloting was conducted in an atmosphere of fear and violence.

The Russians, who occupy the north half of the country, refused to have any part of the original plan to hold an election throughout Korea to unify this divided former possession of Japan.

The war has been left open in the south for eventual northern participation in the future Government. The Russian-controlled north, however, has started forming its own Government, also designed to cover all Korea.

More than two-thirds of the population of about 30,000,000 people live in the south.

New Assembly

The election, under American supervision and United Nations observation, is to name 200 members of an Assembly to create a Korean Government.

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Saved From The Ice

Seattle, May 8.
All 13 men aboard the 119-ton cannery supply tender Tootsie, trapped for 36 hours in the ice in Bristol Bay, Alaska, were presumed safe early today after the Coast-guard cutter Bitter Sweet had radioed that she had taken her in tow.

The Tootsie reported yesterday that she was taking in water after she had sent out a distress call on Wednesday night stating that she had crashed into the ice.—Reuter.

Slovaks Sentenced On Treason Charges

Prague, May 9.
Four Slovaks convicted of treason for their diatribes from Vienna in March, 1939, were given prison sentences of eight to 20 years by a Bratislava People's Court today.

Ludovít Mutaňský was sentenced to 20 years' hard labour, Karol Murgas to 15, Rudolf Vavra to ten and Vilam Kovar to eight. Their "interrogation imprisonment" of more than two years while awaiting trial was credited to the sentences.

All the four fled to Vienna early in March, 1939, and their speeches over the Nazi-controlled Vienna Radio were credited with hastening the declaration of Slovak independence on March 14 which led directly to the German occupation of Prague the next day.

They returned to Bratislava shortly afterwards and held various posts in the puppet State of Slovakia throughout the war.—United Press.

NEW RED CHALLENGE IN BERLIN

Berlin, May 9.
The Red Army newspaper, Taegliche Rundschau, today attacked the Western flying rights in the corridors over the Soviet Zone.

"Such lack of discipline and disorganisation, such disregard of elementary flying regulations, can no longer be tolerated. Order must be restored," said the paper.

The editorial, by M. Sobinov, was the first challenge in more than a week to the Western Powers' freedom of the air. It is generally believed Sobinov reflected the personal opinion of Marshal V. Sokolovsky (Soviet Military Governor).

Sobinov charged the Western Powers violated the agreement establishing the air corridors when "by unilateral action and without the consent or approval of the Soviet military administration they allowed various private flights along the corridors for commercial purposes." — United Press.

RADIO

2HW Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles from 12.30 to 2.00 p.m., and from 6.00 to 11.15 p.m., and also on 9.22 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12.30 to 1.30, 7.30 to 8.30 and 9.15 to 11.15 p.m. H.K.T.

12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.
12.32 p.m.—Ted Heath and His Music with Paul Carpenter (Vocal) (B.B.C.T.S.)
1.02 p.m.—Parade by Patricia (B.B.C.T.S.)
1.15 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.
1.25 p.m.—Interlude.
1.35 p.m.—B.H.C. Symphony Orch. conducted by Clarence Raybould. (B.B.C.T.S.)

2.00 p.m.—Close Down.
6.00 p.m.—Programme Summary.
6.01 p.m.—"Here We Are Again!" Variety Show with Anita & Her Orchestra. (O.R.B.S.)
6.30 p.m.—Hospital Request Half hour presented by Nan Dickinson.
7.00 p.m.—"Music for You" Gerald Orch. & His Singers (O.R.B.S.) (Studio)

7.30 p.m.—Portuguese Half Hour. (Studio)
8.00 p.m.—World and Home News (London Relay)
8.15 p.m.—Grieg's Lyric Suite—Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra.
8.30 p.m.—"I Like What I Like" presented by Vic Carver (Studio)
9.00 p.m.—Maurice Gilmore at the Piano. (Studio)
9.15 p.m.—"The Hour upon the Stage" A Talk by Dr. Rand. (Studio)
9.30 p.m.—"Pan American"
10.00 p.m.—World and Home News (London Relay).

10.15 p.m.—Weather Report.
10.16 p.m.—"Take Your Choice"
11.00 p.m.—Radio News Reel (London Relay).
11.15 p.m.—Weather Report and Close Down.

MAJESTIC

SHOWING TO-DAY
SPECIAL TIMES:
AT 2.30, 5.00, 7.20 & 9.40 P.M.



TOMORROW'S PROBLEM
S. 8 4 3
H. K 10
D. A J 6 3 2
C. K 10 7
S. Q 9 6 H. Q 9 3 2 D. 10 9 8 C. Q 8
S. A K 7 5 2 H. J 8 4 D. K 5 C. A 6 2
(Dealer: South. North-South vulnerable.)
How should North play at 3-lops Trumps following the club Conference. Knowing his 4 lead?

TO-DAY ONLY **VICTORY** AT 12.30, 2.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
NATHAN RA TEL 20100
Anna NEAGLE—Michael WILDING
"THE COURTNEYS OF CURZON STREET."
Produced & Directed by Herbert WILCOX
LONDON FILMS PRESENT
TO-MORROW
"THE MAN FROM MOROCCO"

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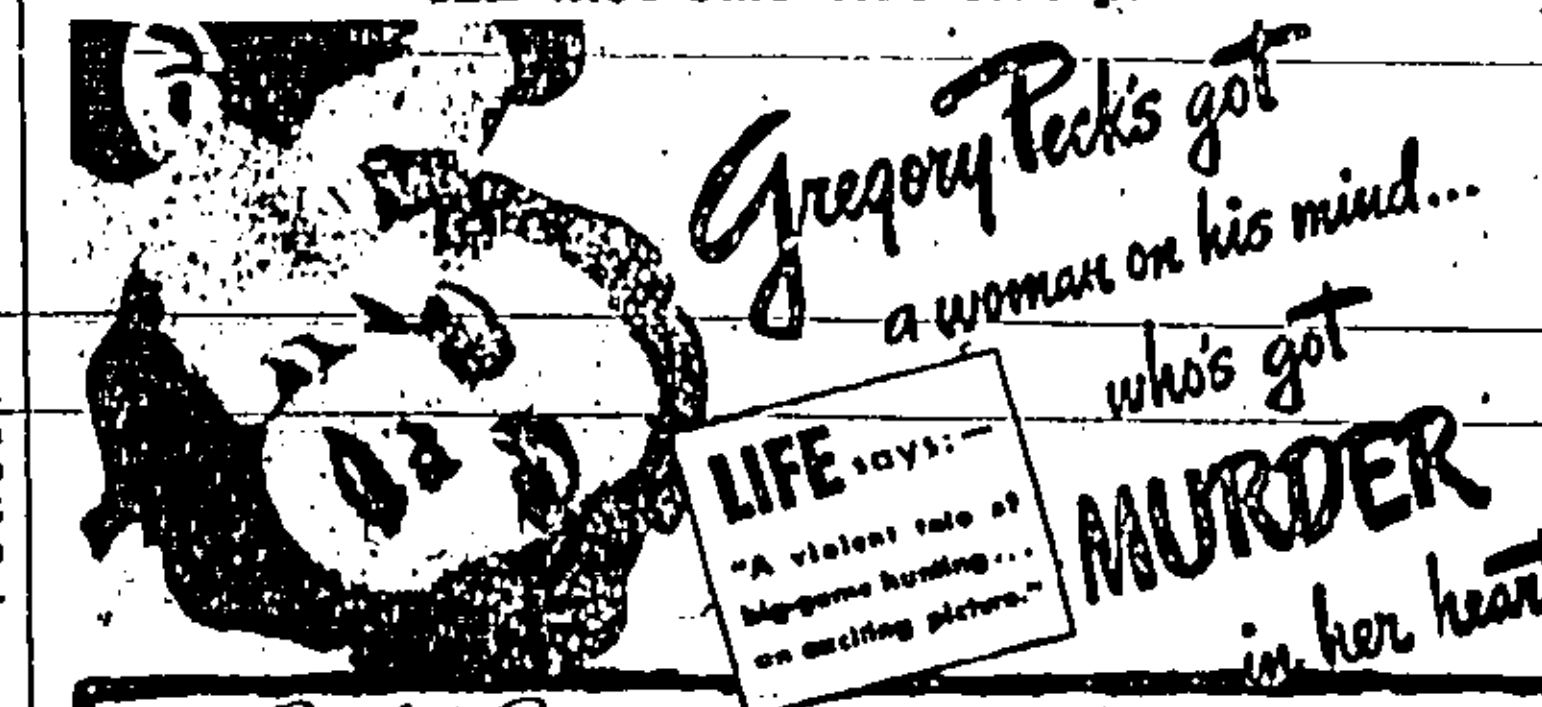
SHOWING **KINGS** TO-DAY SPECIAL TIMES: 2.15, 4.45, 7.15 & 9.45 P.M.



Special Roadshow Prices: \$2.40, \$3.50, \$4.70 (incl. Tax)
This picture will not be shown again in the Colony for at least four months.

ADVANCE BOOKING OFFICE T. FRANCIS HOTEL.
Booking Hours: 11.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Daily

FINAL SHOWINGS TO-DAY
AT 2.30-5.15-7.30-9.30 p.m.



GREGORY PECK • JOAN BENNETT
"Sweet Honeycombs" MOST SAVAGE LOVE STORY
"THE MACOMBER AFFAIR"
by ROBERT PRESTON with REGINALD DENNY • JEAN GILHE
Produced by J. L. LARSEN
Directed by J. L. LARSEN

ALSO LATEST GAUMONT BRITISH NEWS
TO-MORROW
Jane POWELL • Edgar BERGEN • Charlie MCCARTHY in
"SONG OF THE OPEN ROAD"
RELEASED THRU UNITED ARTISTS

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WESTERN UNION DEFENCE

That the meeting of the five

Defence Ministers of the

"Western Union" should un-

leash a lot of rumours, and

that it should be denounced

by Moscow and its dependen-

cies as evidence of preparation

for war is, unhappily one of

the things one takes for

granted in these days. But

there is no need for any alarm-

ist deductions and no justifica-

tion for talk of war-monger-

ing. A meeting of the five

Defence Ministers, like the

meeting of the five Finance

Ministers, is a logical and

necessary sequel to the signa-

ture of the Treaty of Brussels.

Its timing has no connection

with political developments.

The meeting follows naturally

on the first meeting of the

"Permanent Organ" of the

new Union. Under Article III

of the Treaty, the five States

(Great Britain, France, Bel-

gium, the Netherlands and

Luxembourg) agree to give "all

the military and other aid and

assistance in their power" to

any one of them which may

be "the object of an armed at-

tack in Europe." Such pledges

of mutual assistance imply

and involve obligations of co-

operative preparation. Were

the cause for such action to

arise methods of co-operation

could not be hastily im-

provised. To attempt to do

so would be to invite disaster.

Of that Belgian and Dutch

experience in 1940 is ample

warning. Just as the defence

plans of single governments

must be made long in advance,

and provide for eventualities

which it is hoped will never

occur, so the defence plans of

an alliance must be made and

co-ordinated. And to that end

it was agreed when the five

Foreign Ministers met in Paris

before the signing of the

Treaty that there should be

set up a permanent defence

committee. It will, one may

assume, arrange for full ex-

change of information and in-

teelligence, for unification, or

at any rate, harmonisation of

armaments. It will concert

strategic plans for various

contingencies. It could be the



The Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact was recognised as the signal for the German attack on Poland. Mr. Churchill re-

vealed, however, in the course of this instalment that Hitler postponed his attack for a week in the hope of persuading the British Government to acquiesce once more.

The Non-Aggression Pact and the secret agreement were signed rather late on the night of Aug. 23, 1939. Only totalitarian countries in both countries could have faced the piling of such an unnatural act.

It is a question whether Hitler or Stalin initiated it most. Both were aware that it could only be a temporary expedient. The antagonisms between the two empires and systems were mortal. Hitler would be a less deadly foe to Russia after a year of war with the Western Powers. Hitler followed his method of "One at a time." The fact that such an agreement could be made means the humiliating failure of British and French foreign policy and diplomacy over several years.

The sinister news broke upon the world like an explosion. On Aug. 21-22 the Soviet Tass Agency stated that Ribbentrop was flying to Moscow to sign a Non-Aggression Pact with the Soviet Union. Whatever emotions the British Government may have experienced, fear was not among them. They lost no time in declaring that "such an event would in no way affect their obligations, which they were determined to fulfil." Nothing could now avert or delay the conflict.

It is still worth while to recall the terms of the Pact. Article I, both High Contracting Parties (obligate themselves to desist from any act of violence, any aggressive action, and any attack on each other, either individually or jointly with other Powers.

This Treaty was to last 10 years, and if not denounced by either side one year before the expiration of that period, would be automatically extended for another five years.

There was much jubilation and many toasts around the Conference table. Stalin spontaneously proposed the toast of the Fuehrer, as follows: "I know how much the German Nation loves its Fuehrer. I should therefore like to drink his health."

A moral may be drawn from all this, which is of homely simplicity. "Honesty is the best policy." Several examples of this will be shown in these pages. Crafty men and Statesmen will be shown misled by all their elaborate calculations. But this is the signal instance. Only 22 months were to pass before Stalin and the Russian nation in its scores of millions were to pay a frightful price.

If a Government has no moral scruples, it often seems to gain great advantages and liberties of action, but "All comes out even at the end of the day, and all will come out yet more even when all the days are ended."

On the news of the German-Soviet Pact, the British Government at once took precautionary

measures. Orders were issued for key parties of the coast and anti-aircraft defences to assemble, and for the protection of vulnerable points. The Colonial Office was given discretion to send the stand-by telegram, and the Lord-Privy Seal to bring the regional organisation up to war strength.

On Aug. 23 the Admiralty received Cabinet authority to requisition 25 merchantmen for conversion to armed merchant cruisers (A.M.C.), and 35 trawlers to be fitted with Asdic. Six thousand reservists for the overseas garrisons were called up. The anti-aircraft defence of the radar stations and the full deployment of the anti-aircraft forces were approved. Twenty-four thousand reservists of the Air Force and all the Air Auxiliary Squadrons, were called up. All leave was stopped throughout the Fighting Services. The Board of Trade issued warnings to merchant shipping. Many other minor steps were taken.

The Prime Minister decided to write to Hitler about these preparatory measures.

These steps have, in the opinion of his Majesty's Government, been rendered necessary by the military movements which have been reported from Germany, and by the fact that apparently the announcement of a German-Soviet Agreement is taken in some quarters in Berlin to indicate that intervention by Great Britain on behalf of Poland is no longer a contingency that need be reckoned with.

No greater mistake could be made. Whatever may prove to be the nature of the German-Soviet Agreement, it cannot alter Great Britain's obligation to Poland, which his Majesty's Government have stated in public repeatedly and plainly, and which they are determined to fulfil.

It has been alleged that if his Majesty's Government had made their position more clear in 1914 the great catastrophe would have been avoided. Whether or not there is any force in that allegation, his Majesty's Government are resolved that on this occasion there shall be no such tragic misunderstanding.

If the need should arise they are resolved and prepared to employ without delay all the forces at their command, and it is impossible to foresee the end of hostilities once engaged. It would be a dangerous delusion to think that, if war once starts, it will come to an early end, even if a success on any one of the several fronts on which it will be engaged should have been secured.

The Twentyfirst Instalment

SINISTER MOSCOW PACT

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On August 25 the British Government proclaimed a formal Treaty with Poland, confirming the guarantees already given. It was hoped by this step to give the best chance to a settlement by direct negotiation between Germany and Poland in the face of the fact that if this failed Britain would stand by Poland. Said Goering at Nuremberg:

"On the day when England gave her official guarantee to Poland the Fuehrer called me on the telephone and told me that he had stopped the planned invasion of Poland. I asked him then whether this was just temporary or for good. He said: 'No, I shall have to see whether we can eliminate British intervention.'"

Some of them—especially in Sicily and the South—had previously almost decided to vote Communist and changed their minds at the last minute.

But most of them were attached to small, unsuccessful parties, which never did anything but split the vote.

Now they've all justified their way into the Christian Democratic fold. And the result is that the Christian Democrats are today a vast jumbled chaos of a party.

It stretches Right and Left as far as the eye can see, from doctrinaire Socialism through Clericalism to authentic Fascism.

peasants of Emilia and Tuscany might be even still more prosperous if they owned the land instead of working for a share of the crop.

The unemployment figures haven't shrunk. Homes are still being built for the rich and not for the poor. The danger of inflation still haunts the country.

Lost At Home

One of the many mistakes made by the Communists in their election campaign was their inability to look their propaganda on the basis of internal policy.

Indian charity begins strictly at home, and a party which steadily offers land to the peasants and well-paid work to the unemployed is always calculated to win.

The Communists lost the election in a wrangle about international affairs. They might well have won it on a comparison of domestic programmes.

And one new feature has been added. The M.S.I. (Italian Social Movement), which is openly proud of being Fascist, has emerged as a serious party.

And a self-confessed Fascist is an obvious red flag to the Communist bull—it is surprising there haven't been serious clashes already.

Reform Or Defeat

These Fascists are vigorous, adventurous young people who would normally go to the colonies or into the air force or emigrate to America.

Today they join the Fascists. And their torchlight parades are quite terrifyingly reminiscent of Berlin.

So the Italian anti-Communists won a battle last week-end, but

Churchill's Memoirs

SINISTER MOSCOW PACT

In fact Hitler postponed D-Day from August 25 to September 1, and entered into direct negotiation with Poland, as Chamberlain desired. His object was not, however, to reach an agreement with Poland, but to give his Majesty's Government every opportunity to escape from their guarantee. Their thoughts, like those of Parliament and the nation, were upon a different plane.

It is a curious fact about the British Islanders, who hate drill and have not been invaded for nearly a thousand years, that as danger comes nearer and grows, they become progressively less nervous; when it is imminent, they are fearless. These habits have led them into some very narrow escapes.

On August 31, Hitler issued his "Directive Number 1 for the conduct of the war."

1. Now that all the political possibilities of disposing by peaceful means of a situation on the Eastern Frontier which is intolerable for Germany are exhausted, I have determined on a solution by force.

2. The attack on Poland is to be carried out in accordance with the preparation made for "Fall Weiss." (Case White) with the alterations which result, where the Army is concerned, from the fact that it has in the meantime almost completed its dispositions. Allotment tasks and the operational targets remain unchanged. The date of attack—September 1, 1939. Time of attack—04.45 (inserted in red pencil).

3. In the West, it is important that the responsibility for the opening of hostilities

should rest unequivocally with England and France. At first, purely local action should be taken against insignificant frontier violations.

On my return from the Rhine front I passed some sunny days at Madame Balsan's place, with a pleasant but deeply anxious company, in the old Chateau where King Henry of Navarre had slept the night before the battle of Ivry.

Mrs. Euan Wallace and her sons were with us. Her husband was a Cabinet Minister. She was expecting him to join her. Presently he telegraphed he could not come, and would explain later why. Other signs of danger drifted in upon us. One could feel the deep apprehension brooding over all, and even the light of this lovely valley at the confluence of the Eure and the Vesgre seemed robbed of its genial ray.

I found painting hard work in this uncertainty. On August 20 I decided to go home, where at least I could find out what was going on. I told my wife I would send her word in good time. On my way through Paris I gave Gen. Georges luncheon.

He produced all the figures of the French and German Armies, and classified the divisions in quality. The result impressed me so much that for the first time I said: "But you are the masters." He replied: "The Germans have a very strong army, and we shall never be allowed to strike first. If they attack, both our countries will rally to their duty."

That night I slept at Chantwell, where I had asked Gen. Ironside to stay with me next day. He

had just returned from Poland, and the reports he gave of the Polish army were most favourable. He had seen a divisional attack exercise under a live barrage, not without casualties: Polish morale was high.

He stayed three days with me, and we tried hard to measure the unknown. Also at this time I completed breiklaying the kitchen of the cottage which during the year that I had prepared for our family home in the years which were to come. My wife, on my signal, came over via Dunkirk, on August 30.

There were known to be 20,000 organised German Nazis in England at this time, and it would only have been in accord with their procedure in other friendly countries that the outbreak of war should be preceded by a sharp prelude of sabotage and murder.

I had at that time no official protection, and I did not wish to ask for any. But I thought myself sufficiently prominent to take precautions. I had enough information to convince me that Hitler recognised me as a foe.

My former Scotland Yard detective, Inspector Thompson, was in retirement. I told him to come along and bring his pistol with him. I got out my own weapons, which were good. While one slept, the other watched. Thus nobody would have had a walk-over. In these hours I knew that if war came—and who could doubt its coming?—a major burden would fall upon me.

(To Be Continued)

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The Danger Isn't Over Yet

The "limelight" is fading on Italy. Her brief performance as the most important nation in the world brilliantly concluded.

From Rome one seemed to hear the waning echoes of the Western World's applause, the dying signs of relief.

But don't think the whole matter is now closed. Don't sigh too finally with relief. Communism hasn't unconditionally surrendered in Italy. It isn't even all that much smaller than it was before.

The point of this election has not been a Communist defeat but a Christian Democratic victory.

Scared Into It

Premier de Gasperi's merit is that he has prevented the Communists from winning, and has produced the biggest party in the country.

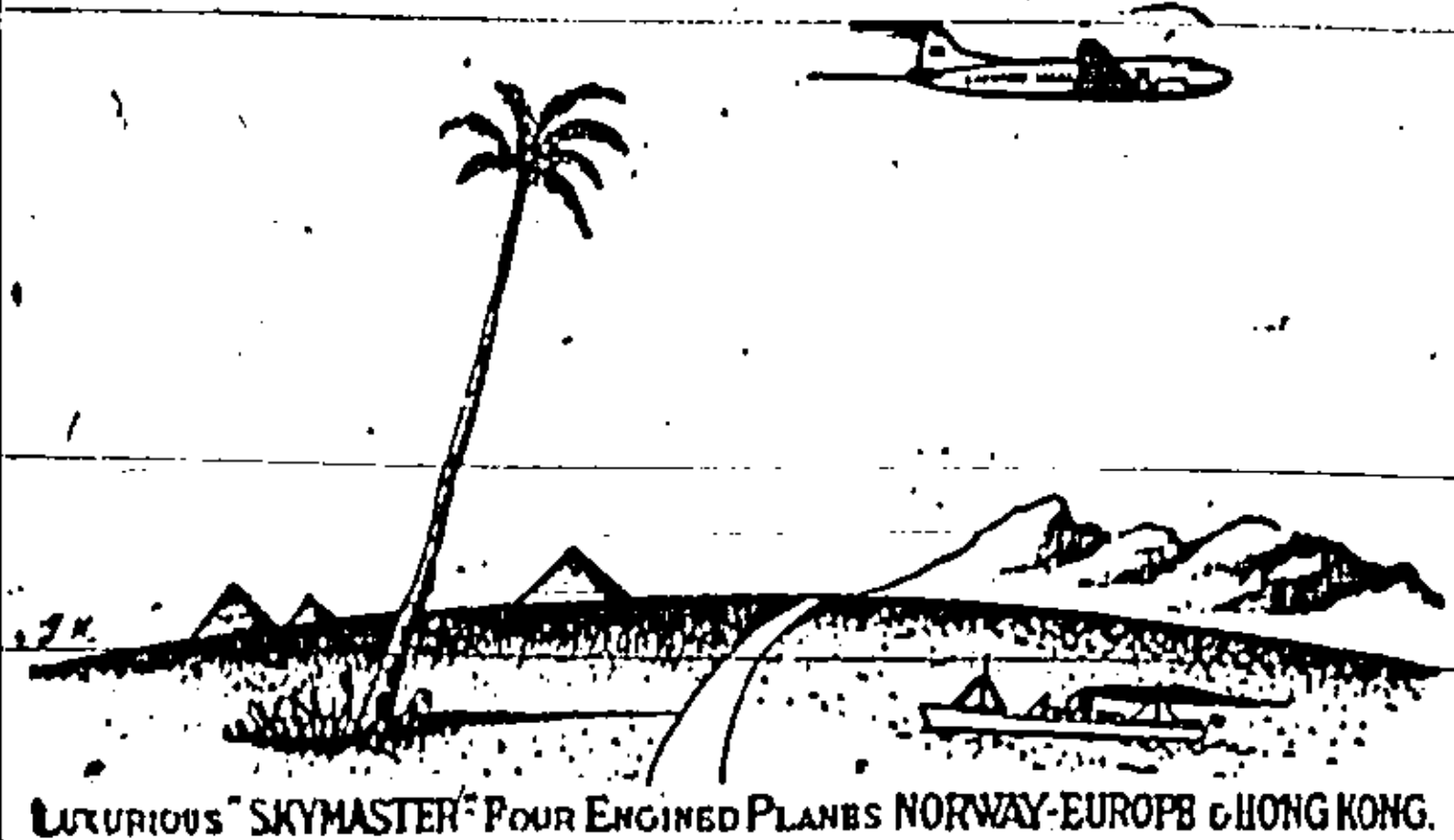
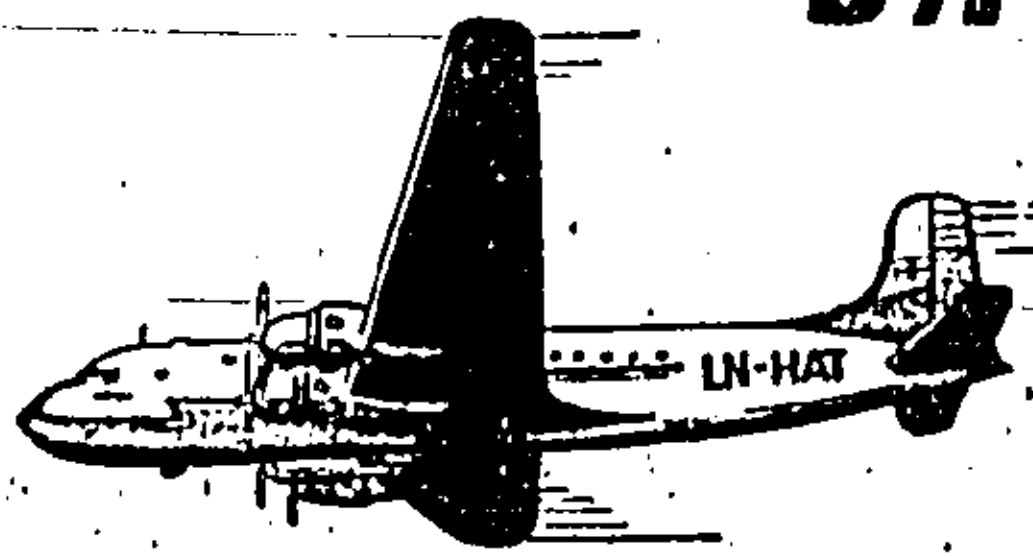
But he hasn't scotched Communism. He hasn't even started. It is important to realise what has happened. Millions of Italian voters, under enormous pressure from abroad and as the result of unprecedented propaganda at home, have been scared into voting for the Christian Democrats.

Some of them—especially in Sicily and the South—had previously almost decided to vote Communist and changed their minds at

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EUROPEAN CONGRESS BUSY ON SCHEMES FOR UNION

Draft Resolution To Promote Unity

Reynaud's Plan For Assembly

The Hague, May 8.

The Congress of Europe began today to hammer out the details of its plan for a European political, economic and cultural union.

It split into three committees, each of which considered a draft resolution to promote this unity.

The main points before the committees were the creation of:
1. A European Assembly;
2. A European Economic Union;
3. A cultural centre free of Government supervision.

Mr. Winston Churchill, who addressed yesterday's opening session, did not take part in any of the committee meetings. He was spending the week-end as Queen Wilhelmina's guest.

The Congress meets in plenary session on Monday.

"The urgent need for action is underlined by the present state of tension and the armaments race," Reynaud said.

Reynaud opposed appointment of such an Assembly by the 16 nations' Parliaments. Only elected delegates could speak for all Europe, he contended.

Reynaud said it is too early to form a full Parliament for Europe, but that a consultative and advisory body should "tackle the problem of European reconstruction and advise on the distribution of American aid."

Baruch Message

Winston Churchill is honorary chairman of this conference. He urged yesterday an international assembly which could speak for Europe in a united voice.

Bernard M. Baruch, adviser to United States President, sent a message hailing the Congress of Europe idea as a ray of hope for the survival of Western civilization.

"European unity under the United Nations alone can assure the survival of civilization. You can kindle anew the hopes of all mankind and encourage American efforts to greater help for Europe, which will help itself back to enjoyment of life, liberty and happiness." — Associated Press.

One Currency

The liveliest debate was in the political committee. After general discussion of the draft resolution, the Chairman, M. Paul Ramadier, put the document, paragraph by paragraph. A long list of amendments was tabled.

Both in the political and economic committees it was emphasized that European reconstruction was doomed to failure if attempted on a national or individual basis.

The political committee considered the calling of a European Consultative Assembly. Members of this would be appointed by the various Parliaments.

The economic committee discussed a union which envisaged the ultimate abolition of customs barriers, free circulation of capital and completely currency unification.

In all three committees, delegates emphasised the need for speed.

Germany

Lord Layton told the economic committee that many of the problems raised at the first economic conference at Geneva in 1937 were still unsolved.

These he listed as frontier restrictions, the position of the United States as creditor nation and Russia's position in relation with world trade.

Germany would have to become a unity again and "economically" a part of Western Europe.

"Our whole object must be to find a way of achieving greater prosperity," he said. — Reuter

Reynaud Plan

The Hague, May 8.
Former Premier Paul Reynaud of France proposed today the election of a consultative European Assembly this year by the 16 European Marshall Plan nations.

Reynaud's proposal, made to the unofficial 22-nation forum discussing European union here, called for each of the 16 nations to elect by universal suffrage, one representative for each million of its population.

This, the wartime French leader said, would give Britain about 48 delegates, France 40, Belgium eight and the Netherlands, nine.

TWO MEN ACCUSED OF ATTEMPTED MURDER OF POLICE CONSTABLE

London, May 8.

George King, 46-year-old silver refiner of Golding Street, Stepney, and Ronald Thomas Colverson, 17-year-old van guard of Batty Street, Stepney, were charged at West Ham court today with shooting at Police Constable Cecil John Harris, with intent to murder him, at Woodrange Road, Forest Gate, East London.

Both were remanded in custody until Wednesday. The police said the papers of the case would be put before the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Detective Inspector Long said that yesterday, with Detective Inspector Jenkins, he saw Colverson at the police station and told him that he answered the description of one of two persons who shot a police officer at the rear of a shop at Woodrange Road, Forest Gate, in the early hours of Tuesday last.

When told he would be put up for identification, Colverson said: "You seem to know all about the job. I might as well tell the truth about it."

Daggers Found

The Inspector said that when Colverson was asked if he would like his statement reduced to writing, he said: "Yes please, I want to get it over." He then made a signed statement.

In his pockets were found, among other things, a pair of sun glasses, part of a tin of pepper and a dagger in a sheath.

At his home at Hobart House, Stepney, a red sport shirt, an electric torch and another dagger were found in the bedroom.

Inspector Long said he went to Hobart Street and searched the back bedroom of the house occupied by King.

"Underneath the mattress of a bed near a pillow I found this revolver, dagger and, underneath the pillow, an electric torch. On the mantle I found a paper bag containing 18 rounds of revolver ammunition."

"I'm Sorry"

The Inspector said that he saw King at the police station and told him he would be put up for identification. King said: "Cut that out. I am admitting I am the one who did the shooting. I am sorry now I did it."

When the two were charged together, King said: "The chap on my right"—indicating Colverson—"had nothing to do with it." Neither had anything to say when remanded in custody. — Reuter.

SOVIET DECIDE TO STAY AWAY

Berlin, May 9.

The Soviet delegation announced that it will be unable to attend the next meeting of the Allied Kommandatura.

American officials interpreted this as a new Russian step toward wrecking the last functioning organ of four-power Government in Germany.

Since the Russians walked out of the Allied Control Council on March 20, Western Allied officials have forecast Soviet manoeuvres to kill the Allied Kommandatura, which is the four-power government body for Berlin.

The Russians advised the Chiefs of Staff of the Western Allies that their delegation would be unable to attend because of the illness of Major-General Alexander Kotikov, Russian commander in Berlin.

An official British statement stressed "in the past, when a commandant has been unable to attend, it has been the normal practice for his deputy to take his place." — Associated Press.

TWINS SET A WORLD RECORD

Sydney, May 9.

The newspaper Truth reported today that an Australian woman gave birth to twins six days and one hour apart for what was believed to be a world record.

Truth said the obstetrician, a man of 45 years experience, was "quite shaken" by the ordeal although the mother bore up well. The parents were John and Mary Plunkett. The first twin was born on May 2—a seven pound boy. The second arrived on May 8—a six pound four ounce girl.

John Plunkett said later: "No one will ever know what I've been through." — United Press.

TRUMAN 64

Washington, May 9.
President Truman celebrated his 64th birthday today. — Reuter.

H.K. Crackers Explode

San Francisco, May 8.
A fire on board the Pacific Far East Lines freighter S.S. "Contest," unloading Oriental cargo, set off a series of explosions today.

The unexpected noise was caused by exploding fire-crackers, several cases of which went up in smoke. The blaze was confined to one bulkhead. The ship docked from Manila, Hong Kong and Yokohama. — Associated Press.

"EMERGENCY" TROOP TRANSFER

Washington, May 9.

Captain Walter W. Weir, Assistant Public Information Officer here, said today an "emergency" transfer of 500 troops to Alaska by air was being made to fill out under manned units.

The field earlier announced it was flying the soldiers to the territory in an unexplained "emergency."

The Captain said the soldiers, collected from all over the United States and Hawaii, had been at Fort Lawton "for a long time" waiting transfer north by ship. Men were being moved south from Alaska posts steadily without replacements, leaving units there badly understaffed.

He said the men were among 2,100 destined to move north. — Associated Press.

BRITISH WARNING TO GREECE

London, May 9.

Britain has warned Greece against giving the impression that the execution of rebels is a reprisal for the recent assassination of the Minister of Justice, M. Christos Ladas.

A Foreign Office spokesman said today that Britain had no intention of intervening on behalf of the rebels condemned to death for murder. The Government had never intervened to prevent the execution of persons charged with civil crimes.

The spokesman said the murders of 1944 and added that one of the persons recently executed had been responsible for the killing of 400 people by machine-guns.

Britain had, however, intervened in cases where death sentences had been passed on political charges "which had seemed to be groundless, for instance, in the judicial murder of the Bulgarian Agrarian leader, Nikola Petkov."

The spokesman would not say whether Britain was satisfied that the present executions in Athens were not connected with reprisals for the death of M. Ladas. — Reuter.

Palestine Battle Over?

Jerusalem, May 9.

Arab leaders, quoted by official sources, said today that partition was achieved. Akram Hamari, member of the Syrian Parliament, was quoted as saying that the battle is all over and that a Jewish state has arisen.

Taqi Iddin Es Solh, Lebanese adviser to Azzam Pasha, was quoted from Amman as saying that the Arab states are not planning to send major forces to Jerusalem after May 15 if the Jewish forces quit Arab states.

Asked the results of recent conferences, Es Solh was reported as replying, "We saved the Arabs half of Palestine."

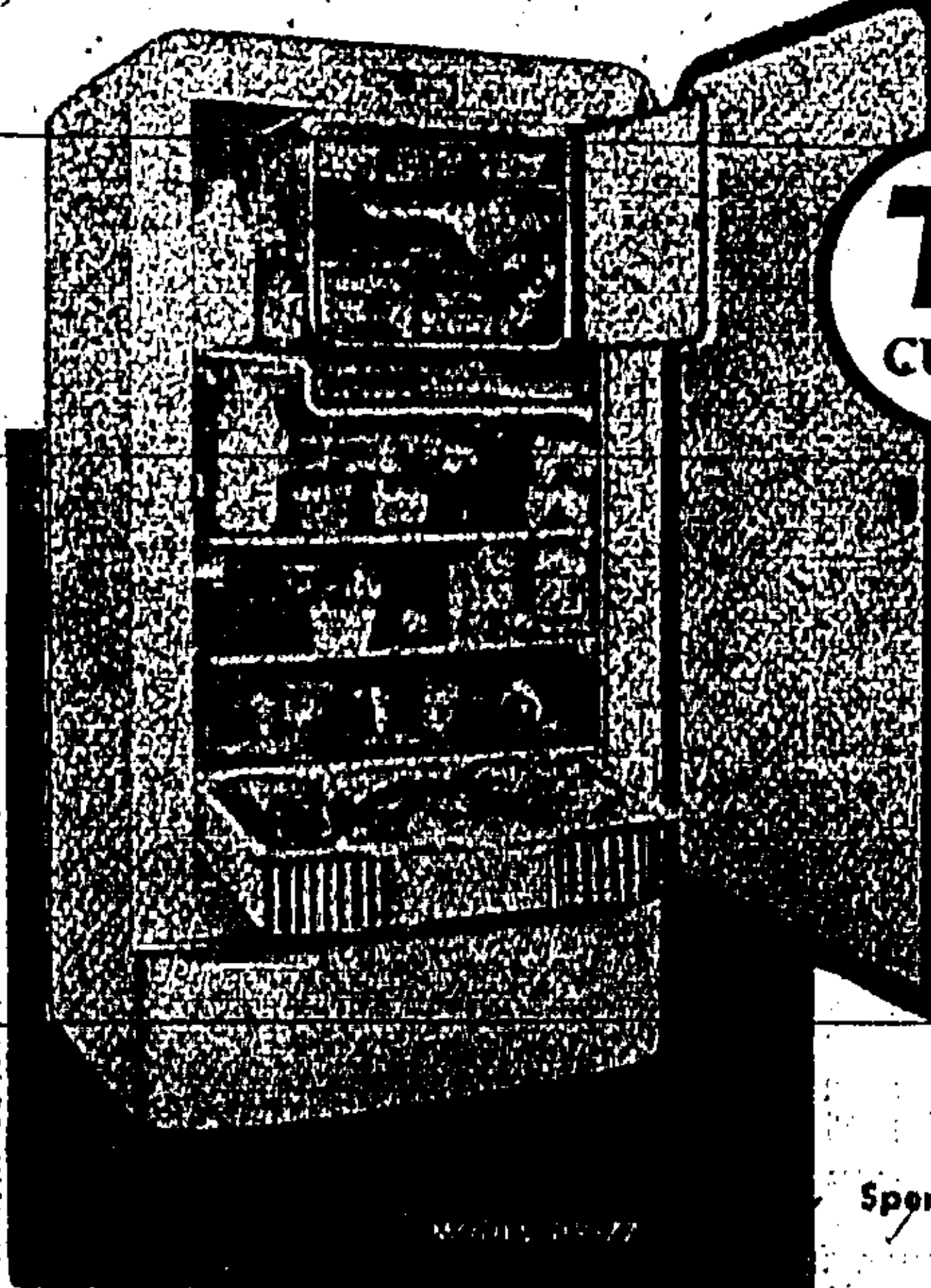
Official sources did not believe that a major Arab offensive would be planned after May 15, principally because the Arabs had not moved to meet the Hagana activity between the British heavy withdrawal and subsequent return of reinforcements. — United Press.

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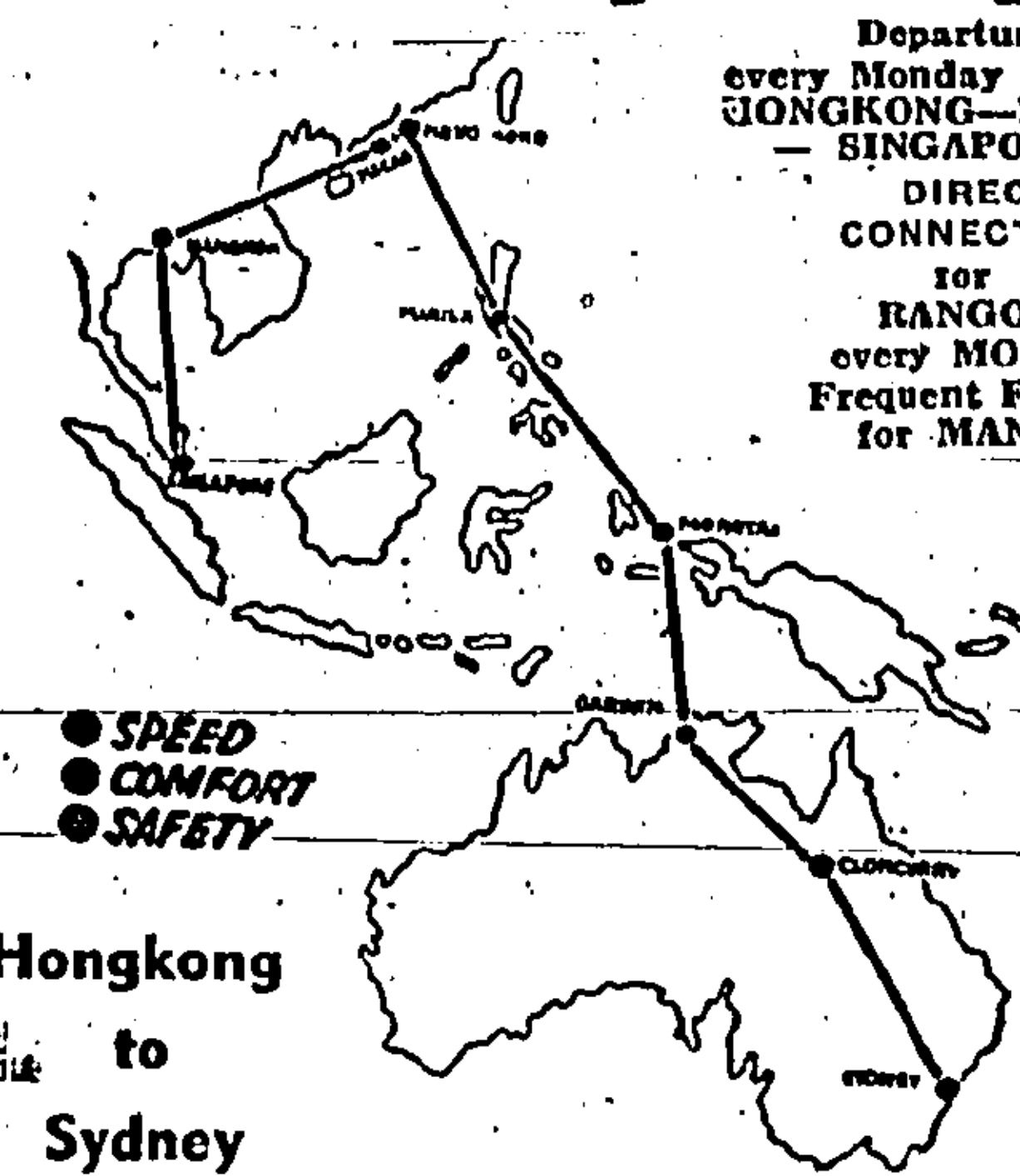
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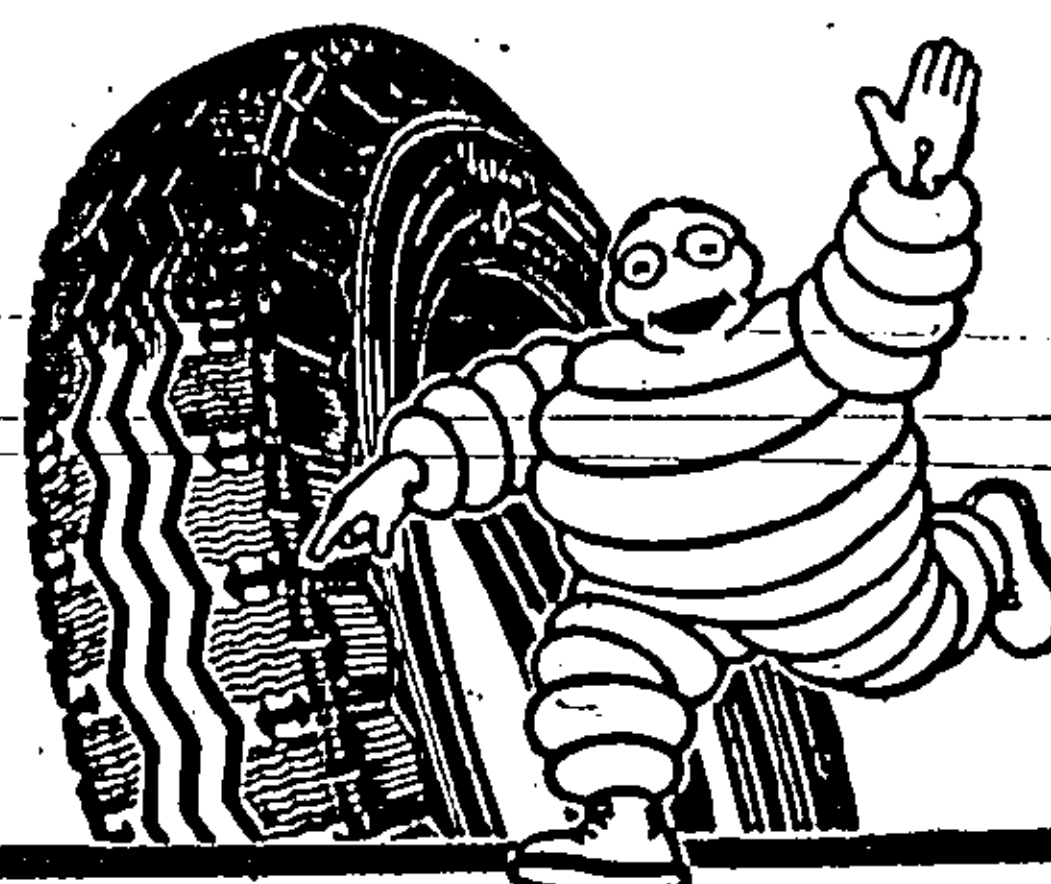
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On the First Day, Saturday 15th May, the First Bell will be rung at 1.30 p.m. and the first race will be run at 2.00 p.m.; on the Second Day, Monday 17th May, the First Bell will be rung at 11.30 a.m. and the first Race will be run at 12 noon. The Tiffin Interval will be after the fourth race (1.30 p.m.).

MEMBERS' BADGES AND ENCLOSURE

Members and guests are reminded that they and their ladies MUST wear their badges PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED throughout the Meeting.

NO ONE WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE.

Badges admitting non-members to the Members' Enclosure and Club Rooms at \$10 each day including tax are obtainable through the Secretary on the written or personal introduction of a Member, such Member to be responsible for all chits etc.

Badges admitting to Members' Enclosure will NOT be on sale at the RACE COURSE.

The Treasurers' Comptroller Office will close at 9.30 a.m. each day. The Secretary's Office will close at 11.35 a.m. the first day and at 10 a.m. on the second day. Both Offices at 1st Floor, Exchange Building.

A limited number of Uffins will be obtainable at the Club House provided they are ordered in advance from the No. 1 Box (Tel. 27818).

NO CHILDREN WILL BE ADMITTED TO THE CLUB'S PREMISES DURING THE MEETING.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE.
The price of admission to the Public Enclosure is \$3 each day including tax for all persons including ladies, and is payable at the Gate.

Bookmakers, Tio Tac men, etc. will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of The Hong Kong Jockey Club during the Race Meeting.

Refreshments will be obtainable in the Restaurant in the Public Enclosure.

SERVANTS' PASSES

Servants' passes will be issued to Private Box holders ONLY who are requested to distribute them with discrimination and to endorse their names on the passes. Holders of such passes are not permitted in the Members' Enclosure except for passing through on their duties but must remain in their employers' stands.

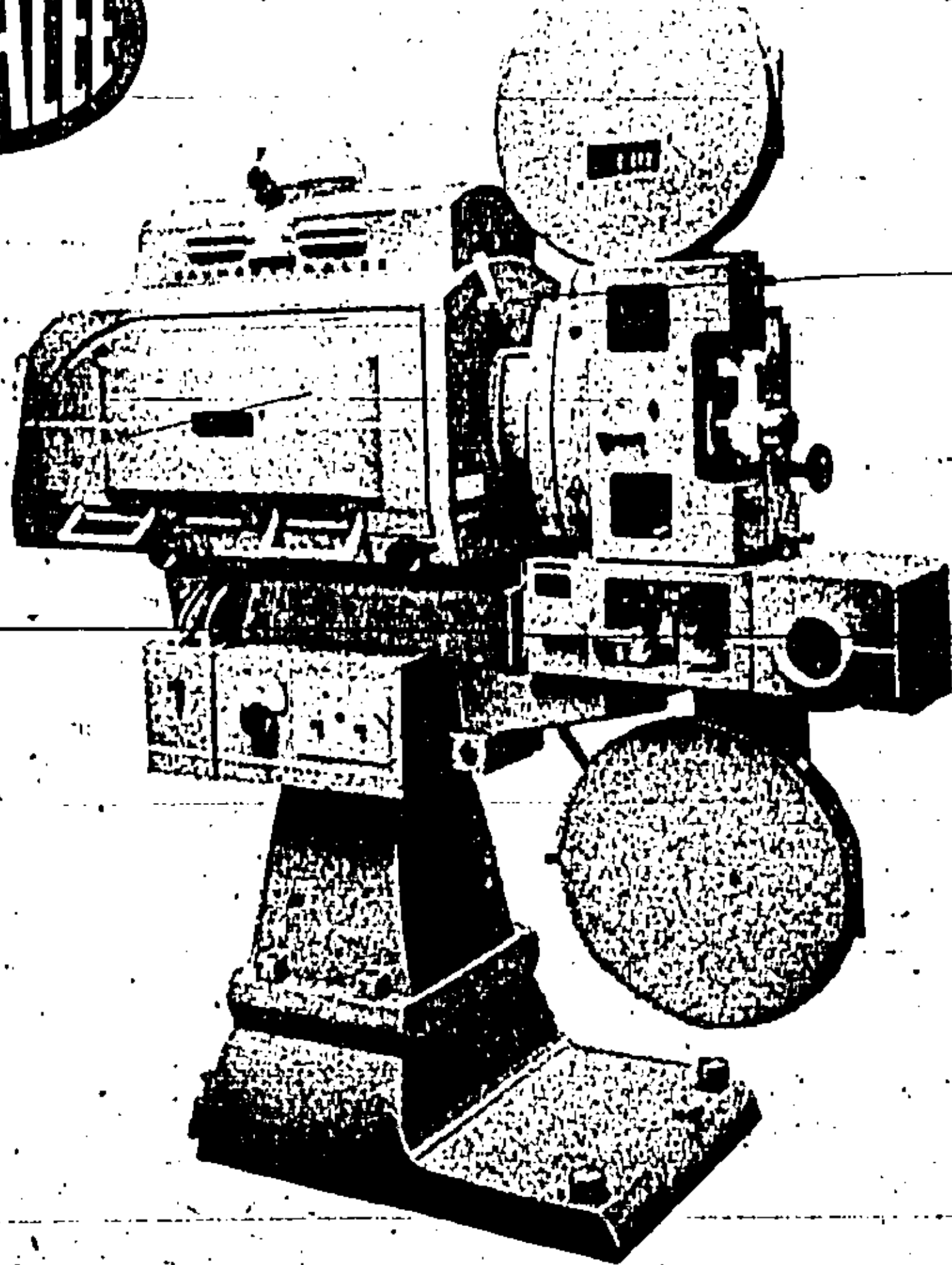
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UNITED NATIONS ADMITS FAILURE IN PALESTINE Problem Will Now Have To Solve Itself Just One Ray Of Hope Left

Lake Success, May 8.
Delegates of the United Nations, in the last week-end before the British mandate ends in Palestine, were today ruefully confessing failure to solve the Holy Land problem and prevent civil war between the Arabs and Jews.

They saw 13 months of investigation, debate and planning, ending in nothing more than a tacit admission that the Palestine problem must solve itself.

The one ray of hope this last week-end is that the Jews and Arabs, before launching into full-scale war, may agree to a truce. Palestine experts here consider the chances between war and an uneasy peace about equally divided.

Whether midnight on May 15 is the signal, however, for more violence or whether it brings a temporary peace, the United Nations delegates realise that the most they can do is to sit back and await developments.

The present special session of the General Assembly, convened in a hurry, opened in an atmosphere of gloom. Everyone suspected everyone else of bad faith. The United States plan for trusteeship languished and was finally shelved.

He gave the Sub-Committee to understand that he would not refuse to serve on this central body if invited.

On the question of immigration and land policy, Mr. Lisky thought that the United Nations body could not attempt to make regulations unless it had power to enforce them.

Mr. John Fletcher-Cooke, British, said that the Palestine Government had already given considerable powers to local authorities but there were services which had to be centralised, such as posts, railways and ports, customs and excise and civil aviation.

During the week-end Mr. Finn Moe, (Norway) will try to draft a skeleton plan along the lines so far discussed and submit it to the Sub-Committee on Monday.

No More

The United Nations, in the last week-end before the end of British rule, is thus left with the "irreducible minimum"—a British proposal to set up a modest United Nations agency to act as a "caretaker" authority in Palestine until the Arabs and Jews are ready to talk terms.

A truce in Jerusalem, and a plan to send a special municipal commissioner there, are two other accomplishments of this session. The latter was a British idea.

That is all to date, and, in the view of informed observers, that is all the United Nations can hope to do at the moment.

The United Nations Palestine Sub-Committee today heard a statement from Mr. Lisky, Chairman of the Palestine Commission, substantially supporting the British proposal for a United Nations Committee as the "continuing authority" in Palestine.

"Caretaker"

The Sub-Committee is attempting to establish some kind of "caretaker authority" before the British mandate ends on May 15. Lisky said that the competence of any central authority which the United Nations might set up should be limited to what it really could perform.

HMS LONDON AT NANKING

Nanking, May 9.
Admiral Sir Denis Boyd, Commander-in-Chief of the British Pacific Fleet, is expected to reach Nanking at 11.30 on Monday morning on a courtesy visit.

Admiral Boyd will call upon President Chiang Kai-shek and members of the Government during his visit and will entertain a large number of important personalities, both Chinese and foreign, at a reception on board H.M.S. "London," the Admiral's flagship, on Monday morning.

Sir Denis Boyd intends to leave Nanking on May 15 when the British ships sail for Shanghai.

Police Hunt For Arab Recruiter

Sydney, May 8.

Security police were today searching for a man alleged to have posed here as a recruiting officer for the Arab Legion, the private army of King Abdullah of Transjordan.

The man was said to have taken deposits from intending recruits as a guarantee that they would honour their agreements to go overseas.

Official Arab and Jewish sources both said there were no recruiting agents here for their forces.

There were unconfirmed reports that some Australians have already been recruited for Palestine as seamen on ships members of whose crew had deserted in Australian ports. It was said these men intended to desert as near as possible to Arab territory.

Commenting on reports that big money had been offered to Australian ex-servicemen to train Arab and Jewish troops, Mr. J. B. Chifley, the Prime Minister, said in Canberra on Monday that Australians going to Palestine to assist either side could "expect no consideration from us."

Blood Bank Contaminates

San Diego, Calif., May 9.
The San Diego Blood Bank today broadcast an urgent appeal for donors to replace the contaminated blood supply.

All blood here has been ordered held for analysis.

Doctors said blood in banks all over the State might also be impure and that the shortage might be critical since there is a constant demand for blood.

Foreign matter was discovered by the State Food and Drug Administration in the bottles in which blood is stored.

GERMANS FOR S. AFRICA

Berlin, May 9.
The British Army in Germany is recruiting 3,000 former German Army men for service with the British Army in South Africa, according to a report published in the National-Zeitung today.

The report said the transport carrying the first 300 recruits left Germany last month and another is scheduled to leave shortly with a further 300.

Peeress' Suicide

Newsbury, May 9.
A coroner's jury ruled that Lady Joan Coventry, 23, committed suicide while the balance of her mind was disturbed.

Lady Joan was found dead on Friday of aspirin poisoning. Her mother, the Countess of Coventry, testified she had had an unhappy love affair.

American Economic Plan For Near East

Cairo, May 9.

The Cairo weekly newspaper Akhbar El Yom said in an article under a Washington dateline that American experts are working day and night on a plan for American financing of agricultural and industrial projects in the Middle East.

The newspaper adds the plan contemplates large loans to Middle East Governments and is designed as an answer to Communist propaganda.

The newspaper Akhbar El Yom criticized young men who, it says, have come to Egypt among Arab refugees from Palestine. "We can accept women and children but we cannot open our doors to young boys of military age who escape their country while we send our young boys—soldiers and officers—to Palestine to die for the sake of these deserters," the newspaper said.

On May 8, the Egyptian Gazette reported that the Palestine Refugee Committee had decided to bar able-bodied Palestine Arabs between 18 and 50 from taking refuge in Egypt.

British Exhibit Opens In Moscow

London, May 9.

Dame Edith Evan, head of the theatrical section of the British-Soviet Society, today opened an exhibition "Shakespeare on the English stage" in Moscow, the Tass news agency reported.

The well-known British actress brought from London 132 lithograph engravings, photographs and theatrical posters reflecting acting in Britain since the 18th Century, said Tass.

Among the exhibits are a theatrical bill dated 1776 announcing the staging of Macbeth and six engravings depicting famous actors such as Sarah Siddons, David Garrick and Edmund Kean.

At the opening ceremony, Tass added, Dame Edith told the Russian gathering "Shakespeare was a great humanist and if we all love mankind as he did, we shall better understand each other and this will make us happier." The Tass report was distributed in London by the Soviet monitor.

Britain's Search For Right Man

London, May 9.

The Foreign Office said that there is "good reason to hope that our efforts" to find a special commissioner for Jerusalem after the surrender of the Mandate "will be successful."

The United Nations Secretary General, Trygve Lie, at Lake Success on Friday released a British statement saying Britain could not find a suitable candidate and therefore wanted Jews and Arabs jointly to name one.

The United Nations had asked Britain to undertake the task. A Foreign Office spokesman said the British statement released by Lie, was intended to show only that the High Commissioner, Sir Alan Cunningham could find no candidate in Palestine.

"Never was there any question of our giving a final report on the Assembly assignment on Friday," the spokesman said. "The search is continuing. We are making it here."

The statement on Friday, in the form of a report to the United Nations was "designed to show that we are taking the General Assembly seriously," the spokesman added.

He said the interim report was "construed in some quarters as meaning we intended to throw in our hand." That, he said, was not the case.

Russians Sore With French

Berlin, May 9.

The Russian-licensed German News Agency, ADN, reported today that French officials refused to permit a group of Russian newspapermen to visit the French Zone in Germany recently.

The Agency said the French refused on grounds of the reorganisation at present under way in the Zone. They also said, according to the Agency, they did not want a tour going on while the London conference concerning Western Germany is in progress.

The French refusal caused great indignation among the Russian journalists, especially because French journalists have repeatedly been given opportunity to travel through the Soviet Zone.

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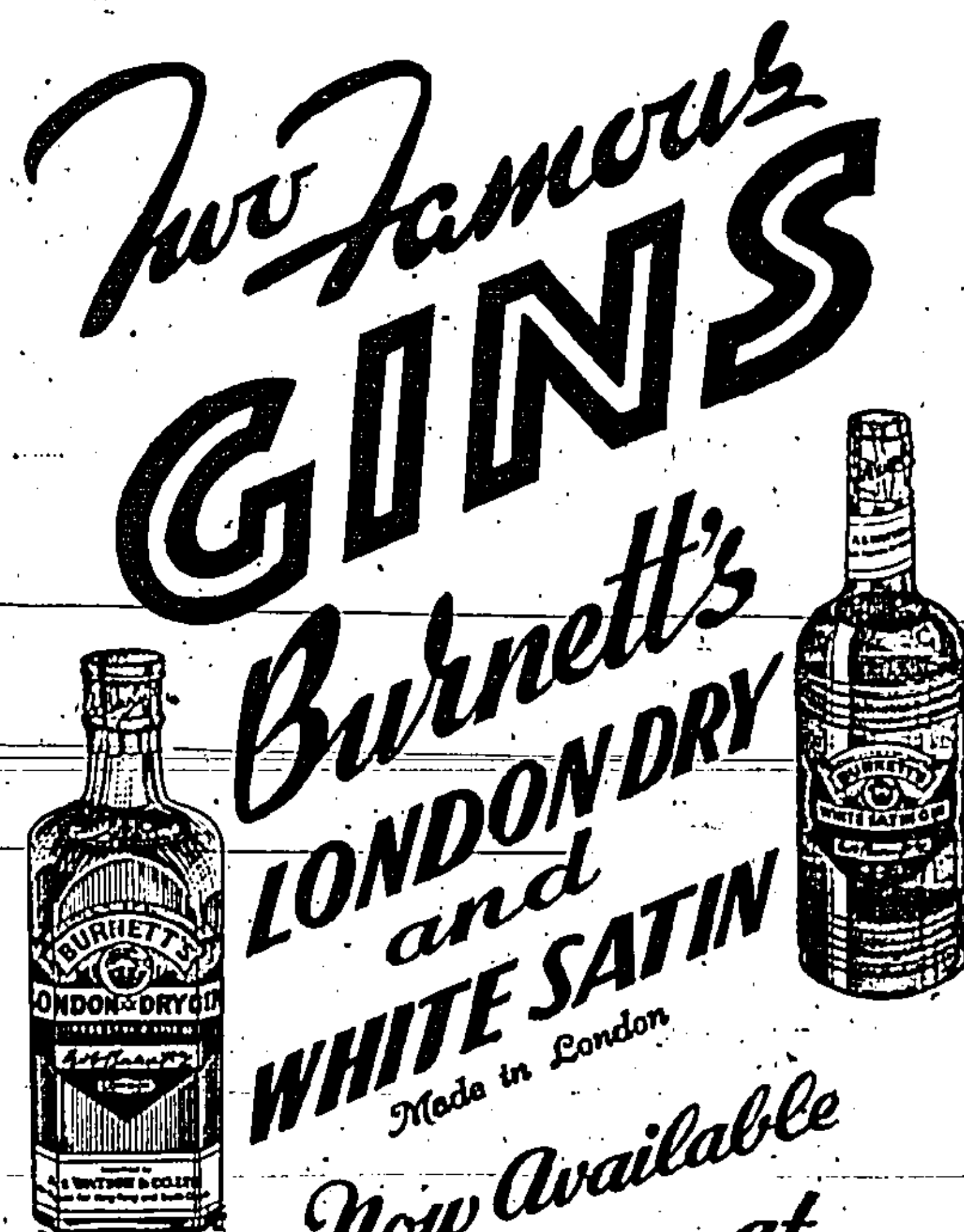
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EGYPTIANS IN PALESTINE

Volunteers Penetrate 30 Miles Inland

Big Battle On At Safad

Cairo, May 8.
 Egyptian volunteers have crossed Palestine's Southern borders and penetrated some 50 kilometres, about 31 miles, inland, according to the first official communique from the Command of Volunteers on the Southern front in Palestine. The communique said "our forces penetrated the frontiers and held their posts without casualties. Some forces rushed to the Northern part of the front to help Arabs repulsing Jewish attacks on Iraq Sawidan," (which is some 31 miles North of the Egyptian border town of Rafa). "This help was successful."

"The people of Palestine received our troops enthusiastically and shouted for Arabism, Egypt and King Farouk," the communique added. (Jerusalem despatches said a traveller returning from a tour of the Southern Palestine desert confirmed the presence of 500 Egyptian volunteers at Faluja and Iraq Sawidan, Northeast of Gaza. The traveller said the volunteers were commanded by "Egyptian Army officers" and apparently were well trained and well armed.)

Unofficial sources in Cairo said the Egyptian regular army had crossed into Palestine. This was not confirmed. The Egyptian Minister for National Defence tonight denied press reports that Egyptian volunteers had entered Palestine. The Minister said that he had no knowledge of any Egyptians crossing the southern Palestine frontier.

Safad Battle
 Palestine Arab military headquarters in Damascus claimed tonight that the northern Palestine town of Safad, already reported captured by the Jews, is still in Arab hands. The battle for Safad is still raging, the Arab communique said. Jewish forces are attacking repeatedly and with extremely heavy casualties in men and material.

"Enemy concentrations in the Jewish quarters have been shellied," it added. "An attack to the west of Safad was repulsed with heavy losses. All attempts to encircle the town have failed and Safad is still in our hands."

"An attack by a Jewish armoured column against the Arab positions around Megiddo, on the plains of Armageddon, on the northwest on May 5 was turned into a Jewish rout," the communique also said. "The Jews dragged away their dead with ropes. A large number of mortar shells and grenades were captured. Our losses were one killed and two wounded."

Holding Out
 Unconfirmed reports said today the Lebanese have urged the British authorities in Palestine to halt the battle around Safad, which was considered in Beirut as the most fierce encounter of the partition war. Arab sources said that although the Haganah troops seized the town of Safad, the Arab forces were still resisting from the concrete police fortress evacuated by the British and from the citadel in the centre of Safad.

King Abdullah of Trans-Jordan reportedly rushed troops and supplies to the beleaguered Arabs in answer to their pleas and promised more aid after May 15. Arab sources said that the Jews have been ordered to conquer the entire city "at all costs" before May 15 because it would give the Haganah a strategic position to defend the Huleh Valley from any Arab invasion.

Awaiting Help
 The Arabs claimed that they could hold out indefinitely at the police fortress on the outskirts of Safad on a hillside. Built to accommodate 1,200 men, the fortress has solid concrete walls which can be penetrated only by heavy artillery.

The Arabs reportedly plan to hold out there until reinforcements arrive after May 15.

Shinwell On War

Taunton, May 9.
 Confessing himself an agitator rather than a statesman, the War Minister, Mr. Emanuel Shinwell, cried: "Down with war" when he spoke to a group of Labour Party members here today. "I am Secretary of State for War," Mr. Shinwell said, "but no one desires war less than I do. I do not believe that ideological differences among nations should be the cause of war. I believe it is possible to have different ideologies and still remain on peaceful terms with one another."—Reuter.

Lebanese Government had repulsed the British of their responsibility for maintaining order and demanded that they intervene in Safad.—Associated Press, Reuter and United Press.

JERUSALEM TRUCE ON ONLY FOR SHORT PERIOD, SAY THE JEWS

Jerusalem, May 8.
 Today's cease fire in Jerusalem, which took effect at noon, will be for "a very short period," a Jewish Agency spokesman said here tonight, quoting a Haganah defence force order of the day.

Haganah did not expect it would be used for consolidation of the forces of their enemy, he said.

Talks on the question of a truce for the whole of Jerusalem are expected to begin tomorrow between representatives of the Jewish Agency and the Palestine Government. Asked to comment on reports that the Arabs' cease fire terms included down that unarmed Jewish convoys would be permitted to travel on the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway subject to Arab inspection, the spokesman said: "We shall never allow the feeding of Jerusalem's Jewish population to be dependent on the mercy of the Arabs."

The cease fire in Jerusalem bore "all the marks of Britain's traditional Arab diplomacy," the spokesman of the Jewish Agency commented. He described the Jericho talks as a purely Jewish matter, a "secondary role," Jews playing a "secondary role." The essence of British policy in Palestine, the spokesman continued, was to "save the Arabs from too severe a beating. The Jews were not prepared to regard the cease fire simply as a manoeuvre to prevent further Jewish advances, while allowing the Arabs to bar the Wailing Wall and retain their 'foreign metropolises' in the Holy City, the spokesman declared.

Jewish Terms
 The Jewish Agency was not officially informed of the cease fire order until 10.30 a.m. today and there had been no negotiations between responsible Jewish authorities and the mandatory government, the spokesman said. The Jewish Agency's terms for a permanent truce in Jerusalem were free access to the Wailing Wall in the Old City and the removal of all foreign Arab armed forces from the city, the spokesman announced.

An official communique issued by the Palestine Government said Sir Alan Cunningham today met the United Nations three-man truce commission to explain the peace moves and to ask for their co-operation. The commission, consisting of the Consul-General of the United States, France and Belgium, went down from Jerusalem to Jericho on Wednesday to meet the Arab leaders and on their return went into conference with Sir Henry Gurney, the Palestine Government Chief Secretary.

TROOPS GLAD TO BE OUT OF IT

Tripoli, May 9.
 About 50 officers, 47 warrant officers and 800 troops of the main party of the 1st Infantry Division Headquarters, have arrived in Tripoli from Haifa aboard the "Empire Test."

"They take up duty at Tripoli Military Headquarters and occupy the former Italian barracks."

The Empire Test has returned to Haifa for evacuation of the remaining troops by the May 15 deadline.

Commanding Officer of the group is Lieutenant-Colonel David Mullin, Highland Light Infantry.

Officers commented "we are jolly glad to be out of Palestine and you will hear that from every man on board."

One said "the next group to leave Palestine will probably board the ship with loaded guns."—Associated Press.

U Saw Innocent, Says His Brother

London, May 8.
 Mr. M. Jee, brother of U Saw, former Burmese Premier, who was executed today, tonight issued a statement here, reiterating the innocence of his brother.

Attacking the present Government as "not the truly representative Government of the Burmese people," the statement added: "We Burmese, who are free because we are at present outside Burma, have already made plans to bring justice to these war criminals when the time comes."

"I have already communicated the matter to Mr. Attlee, the British Prime Minister, who is now fully aware of the true position in Burma. The fact that two Burmese Cabinet Ministers and some 20 members of their party went specially to witness the dastardly execution of U Saw should show the full significance of the whole episode."—Reuter.

ARCH COLLAPSE KILLS 17

Paris, May 8.
 Seventeen people were reported killed today when a concrete arch, 23 metres high, fell on a group of workers in a blast furnace at Mondeville Colombe, a suburb of Caen in western France.—Reuter.

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"TREVELYAN"	Singapore, Penang, Aden, Port Said, Genoa, Marseilles, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam (Amsterdam)	30th May
"ORBITA"	U.K.	9th June
"TREVOSE"	Shanghai & Japan	21st June
"TREVEAN"	Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Aden, Port Said, Genoa, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam (Amsterdam)	24th June

British



India

STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SHIP	FROM	DUE
"PURNIA"	Karachi & Bombay	9th May
SHIP	TO	SAILING
"PURNIA"	Shanghai & Japan	13th May

APCAR LINE

SHIP	FROM	DUE
"SANGOLA"	Japan & Amoy	20th May
SHIP	TO	SAILING
"SANGOLA"	Singapore, Penang, Rangoon & Calcutta	22nd May

* Has Refrigerated Cargo Space.

Eastern



Australian

STEAMSHIP COMPANY LIMITED

SHIPS	from	Due
"NANKIN"	Japan & Shanghai	28th May
"NELLOR"	Australia & Manila	10th June
SHIP	TO	SAILING
"NANKIN"	Shanghai & Japan	8 a.m. 10th May
"NANKIN"	Manila, Sandakan, Rabaul, Brisbane & Sydney	30th May
"NELLOR"	Shanghai & Japan	14th June

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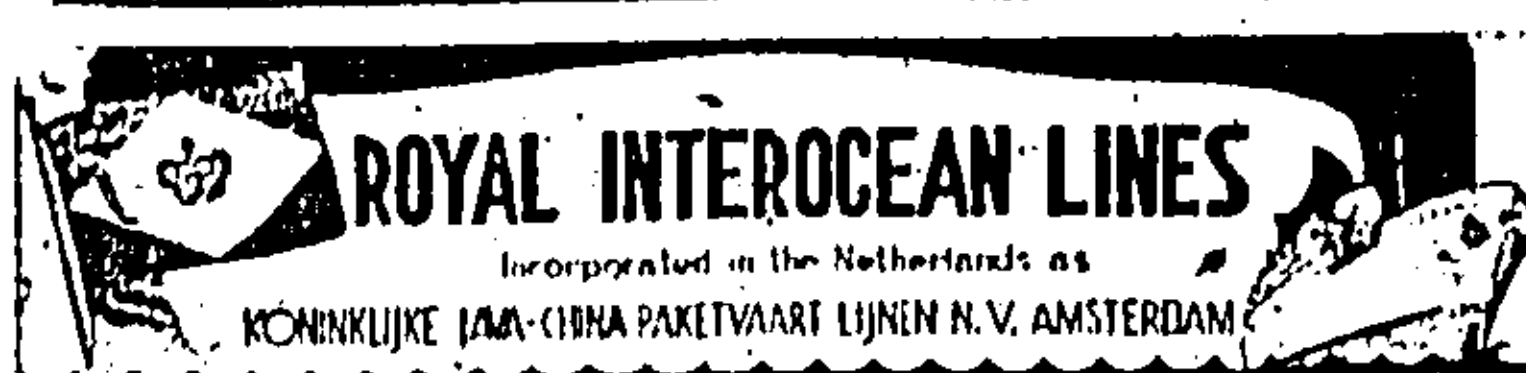
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JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN SERVICE

Arrivals	Departures
"TJIBADAK" from Amoy 11th May	to Javaports & Macassar, 12th May.
"TJITALENGKA" from Macassar and Javaports, 11 May	to Manila, 16th May, to Javaports & Macassar, 20th May.
"TJISADANE" from Macassar and Javaports, 20th May	to Javaports & Macassar, 24th June.

ASIA-AFRICA-SOUTH AMERICA SERVICE

Arrivals	Departures
"BOISSEVAIN" to Port	to South Africa, South America, via Manila & Straits, 14th May, to Shanghai & Japan, 18th May, to South Africa, South America, 4th June.
"STRAAT MALAKKA" from South America, South Africa, 14th May	to South Africa, South America, 29th June.
"TEGELBERG" from South Africa, South America, 14th June	to South Africa, South America, 29th June.

Transshipment cargo on through B/L to Dar-Es-Salaam, Mombasa, Zanzibar accepted on all sailings.

SUMATRA-MALAYA-CHINA SERVICE

Arrivals	Departures
"HEINRICH JESSEN" from Belawan, Deli & Straits, 14th May, from Amoy, to Javaports & Macassar, 21st May.	to Swatow & Amoy, 14th May, to Straits & Belawan, Deli, 21st May.

Agents: HOLLAND-EAST ASIA LINE

Arrivals	Departures
"RIBBINKERK" from Port	to Shanghai & Japan, 18th May, to Europe, 21st May.
"MYRIK" from Europe, 21st May	to Europe, 21st May.

Transshipment cargo on through B/L accepted to Mediterranean and Northern European ports.

Agents: SILVER LINE LTD.

Arrivals	Departures
"SILVEROAK" from U.S. Atlantic Ports, 4th June	to U.S. Atlantic Ports, 7th June.

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EXPRESS CARGO LINER SERVICES
TO AND FROM PACIFIC & ATLANTIC COASTS
LOADING DATES IN U.S.A.

Load	Date	Vessel
Atlantic Coast via Los Angeles	Mid. May	m.v. "DONA NATI"
	Mid. June	m.v. "DONA ANICETA"
	Late June	m.v. "TONGHAI"
ARRIVALS		
From	Date	Vessel
Atlantic Coast via Los Angeles	22nd May	m.v. "BALI"
	13th June	m.v. "DONA AURORA"
	Mid. July	m.v. "DONA NATI"
SAILINGS		
For	Date	Vessel
Atlantic Coast via Los Angeles	13th June	m.v. "DONA AURORA"
	Mid. June	m.v. "BENGAL"
	Mid. July	m.v. "DONA NATI"
San Francisco & Los Angeles	Mid. June	m.v. "HALLAND"

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"S.S. 'PRODUCE'"

LOADING 11th MAY, 1948

SAILING 12th MAY, 1948

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FINANCE AND COMMERCE

SELF-GOVERNMENT APPEAL

Memorandum Sent To Colonial Governor

Not Consulted On Policy Matters

Accra, May 8.

Gold Coast chiefs today urged self-government for the colony in the shortest possible time and complained that the local councils were not consulted on matters of policy.

In a memorandum to the commission of inquiry into the riots here last February in which 21 people were killed and to Sir Gerard Creasy, Governor of the Gold Coast, the chiefs said the Government's policy of "Africanisation" was not making headway. It was discouraging, they said, that "no plans have been formulated to achieve this object in a reasonable time."

The feeling throughout the country, including the elected members of the Legislative Council, is that their views are not given the due weight they deserve, the memorandum added.

"We have been given a majority in the Legislative Council, yet the elected members are divorced from the Administration, especially in matters of finance, which the Financial Secretary decides at his meeting without reference to the elected members of the Legislative Council, whose representatives have to be without effect."

Not Consulted

Under the new constitution, which came into force in March,

1946, the Gold Coast became the first British colony in Africa with a majority of elected African members in its Legislative Council.

"The Council of Chiefs previously requested that, in addition to the Legislative Council and the Executive, a committee of policy be formed with power to meet the Administration on policy for approval before it is carried out by the Government," the memorandum said.

This suggestion was turned down on the grounds that the provincial councils and the Ashanti Confederacy would be consulted on matters of policy, but the memorandum said, experience had proved that "the two territorial councils were, and are, not in fact consulted on policy."

A Fundamental

The chiefs also recalled a request they made last December that membership of the Council of Chiefs should be broadened to include others besides chiefs.

They concluded by emphasising the determination of the country to preserve the British connection in order to achieve the fundamental principle that taxation goes with effective representation.

N.Y. Stock Market

New York, May 9. Stocks generally trended to the recovery side this week and successful rallies and special dividends, gave a good account of themselves in the Saturday session.

Transfers totaled 4,600,000 shares. Demand still was based largely on local Government spending at home and abroad. Gainers included Standard Oil, Union Oil of Calif., Eastern Airlines, Industrial Union, Schenck, American Airlines, Lockheed, Paramount Pictures. A number of others were steady, but few were down.

Dow Jones Average: 254.44, Industrials 152.50, 15.14, 15.73, 70, Utilities 31.08.

Closing quotations:—Adams, Express, 10; Alcoa, 24.25; American, 34.25; Bethlehem, 34.25; Chrysler, 17.75; General Motors, 34.25; International Paper, 34.25; International Tel. & Tel., 18; Johns-Manville, 34.25; Kennecott, 34.25; Montgomery Ward, 34.25; National Distillers, 10.75; New York Central, 34.25; Packard Motors, 34.25; Pan-American Airways, 34.25; Pennsylvania R.R., 19.75; Radio Corp., 34.25; Ford, 34.25; Republic Steel, 34.25; Reynolds Tobacco, 34.25; Sears Roebuck, 34.25; Shell Oil, 34.25; Socony Vacuum, 34.25; Southern Pacific, 34.25; Standard Brands, 34.25; Standard Oil of Calif., 34.25; Standard Oil of Ind., 34.25; Standard Oil of N.Y., 34.25; Studebaker, 34.25; Union Bag, 34.25; U.S. Steel, 34.25; U.S. Lines, 10; Western Union, 34.25; Young & Rubicam, 34.25; Gen. Pub. Utilities, 12.75.—Associated Press.

TILES TO BE TESTED

Sydney, May 8. The New South Wales Government has ordered special tests on tiles imported from India because many a shipment of 250,000 last week were broken.

An officer of the British steamer Quilmin, which brought the tiles, said that some 40,000 shifted during a violent storm off the Australian coast. New South Wales has ordered five million tiles from India.—Reuter.

Railroad Strike Almost Certain

Washington, May 8.

A nationwide railroad strike will go on as scheduled on Tuesday, Union leaders said tonight after a fruitless three-hour conference with management at the White House.

The three key Unions which voted the strike turned down the railroad's renewed offer of a 15-cent an hour wage increase and various changes in operating rules.

W. T. Furley, President of the Association of American Railroads, and spokesman for the carriers, declared, "That's our final offer."

The situation was tightly deadlocked and John R. Steelman, President Harry Truman's labor trouble shooter, admitted it.

"So far it has been impossible to bring the parties to an agreement. We are going to try again tomorrow. I have asked both sides to think over the matter tonight and discuss it with their people."

The railroads' wage increase proposal and the change in working rules were identical with the settlement recommended weeks ago by a Presidential fact finding board.

Other railroad Unions accepted such an increase but three important operating brotherhoods—the Engineers, Firemen and Enginemen and Switchmen—held out for more.

The possibility remained that the Government might seize and operate the roads. But there was no apparent move yet in this direction.—Associated Press.

Meat Packer Strike Vote

Chicago, May 8.

Meat packing house workers in nine cities voted today to strike next week, joining the 100,000 meat packing employees who struck on March 16 in a wage dispute.

There appeared to be no prospect of an early settlement.—Reuter.

New European Fair

Belgrade, May 8.

Southeast Europe's first international industrial fair, which opened at Zagreb today, gave the first overall picture of Yugoslavia's production under her five-year plan. Nearly 1,000 firms were represented with the variety of the Yugoslav products, many of which had never before been produced in the country.

Russia's new cars attracted much attention, particularly the small four-seater, Moskvitch, the medium streamlined Victory and the six-seater luxury Zys. Export goods from Switzerland, Holland, Italy, France and other Western countries were shown side by side with those from East Europe, including Czechoslovakia.—Reuter.

JAPANESE SILK MISSION

Tokyo, May 8.

Nine Japanese silk experts, including a member of the Upper House, will leave Japan on May 14 to attend the first post-war international Silk Congress in Paris, Lyons and Ales, in France.

The party will be led by Mr. Robert A. Hickerson, chief of the Supreme Allied Command's silk branch, and will stop in New York on the way to France to hold preliminary talks with United States silk authorities.—Reuter.

British Sterling Deposits

Washington, May 8.

Britain promised in her ERP "Letter of Intent" to deposit the sterling equivalent for every dollar received under the Marshall plan. It was disclosed when the letter was published by the State Department here today.

Contrary to reports published earlier this week, it contained no reference or hint that it involved Britain "handing over the sterling area" to the United States in return for Marshall plan aid.

The deposits will take the form of grants in a special account to cover the expenses of the European Cooperation Administration.

The letter, signed by Lord Inverchapel, British Ambassador in Washington, was written in accordance with the Marshall Plan Act passed by Congress, and was necessary in order that funds could be made available immediately.—Reuter.

Gold Boost In Canada

Ottawa, May 8.

The first of the Canadian Government's emergency payments to boost gold production is likely to be made about the end of June, a Cabinet source said.

The empowering legislation, passed earlier by the House of Commons and approved yesterday by the Senate, now awaits Royal assent.

The Mines Department is preparing the machinery for paying the bonus retroactive to Jan. 1. The final move will be the Finance Minister's submission to the House of Commons of supplementary estimates covering the payments.—Reuter.

SILVER AND GOLD MARKETS

Bombay: Silver: Ready, per 100 tolas 178 Rupees, 08 Annas; Forward, per 100 tolas 178, 06; Harwar (unofficial) 178, 13. Gold: Delivered, per tola 116, 09; Forward (unofficial) 116, 12; Sovereigns 74, 00. One tola is equal to 3/16ths an ounce.

Buenos Aires: Silver: Ready, per 100 tolas 178 Rupees, 08 Annas; Forward, per 100 tolas 178, 06; Harwar (unofficial) 178, 13.

Alexandria: Gold, per "dirhem" 160 piastres, Egyptian pound 500, Sovereign 512, Turkey pound 305, Napoleon 370, Dollar (piece de cinq) 500, Silver (piastres) per kilogram 800.

One "dirhem" is equal to 1/10th of an ounce.

Bangkok: Gold, Bar, per baht weight of 15,244 grammes, 528 ticals; Exchange Rate (Selling) Bangkok on New York 21.00, London 60.50, Hong Kong 3.65.—Reuter.

Notice To Consignees

CIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

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Damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns for examination by Consignees and the Company's surveyors, Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, 12th May, 1948.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's godowns, and all goods remaining undelivered after the 13th May, 1948, will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 24th May, 1948 or they will not be recognized.

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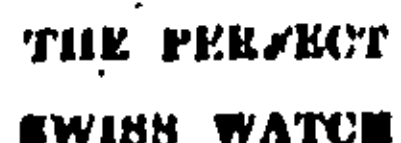
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HONG KONG, MONDAY, MAY 10, 1948.

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DAVIS CUP PLAY

The Hague, May 5.
The Netherlands defeated Portugal 5-0 today in the second round of the European Zone Davis Cup tennis tournament.

In the third round, the Dutch met the winner of the test between Norway and Great Britain.

In the last two singles, Dutch Hans Van Sijl beat Edward Hiccard, 6-4, 6-2, 6-4; and Bobbi van Meegeren beat Jose Roquet, 6-1, 6-8. Associated Press.

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